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Labour conference opens with rejection of US protection

Kinnock firm on shutting nuclear bases

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, confirmed yesterday that a Labour government would not only scrap nuclear weapons in Britain and close down US nuclear bases, but it would also reject the protection of the US nuclear umbrella.

Mr Kinnock said in interviews that he had told President Reagan that he would not wish in any circumstances for the US to use nuclear weapons for Britain's protection.

He said on BBC television's *This Week Next* "If we are not prepared to use the weapon system ourselves we certainly would not be asking anyone else to jeopardise themselves by the use of that nuclear weapon. I think it would be immoral to do so."

The Labour leader also spelt out in greater detail the implications of Labour's anti-nuclear policy. Mindful of the employment prospects around the US installations, Labour will not close all American bases in Britain capable of being used by nuclear-armed aircraft and missiles but only those with stockpiled warheads and weapons.

Nuclear-powered boats carrying nuclear weapons "for temporary purposes" would not be excluded from entering British ports nor would bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons be prevented from using British airfields.

But Mr Kinnock confirmed that a Labour government would not allow Britain to be used as a staging post for US aircraft on active missions such as the Libyan raid, "not for the purposes of attacking and not with armed weapons."

The Labour leadership was faced with a difficult task after the highly publicized split on defence between the Liberals and the Social Democrats and the leaking of sharp criticism.

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of the party's defence plans by Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, and Mr Richard Perle, his deputy.

It has focused the spotlight back on a policy which Mr Kinnock had hoped to keep in the shadows at Blackpool this week.

Mr Kinnock is trying to woo away from the Alliance the unilateralist Liberals who have been dismayed by Mr David Steel's support for a continued nuclear deterrent.

At the same time he is seeking to convince a sceptical British electorate which emphatically rejected Labour unilateralism at the last elec-

tion that his party will provide Britain with effective defence.

The task has been complicated by the American intervention. Mr Kinnock has had to hold back the hothouse in his party from extreme reaction to Mr Weinberger's comment, finally due to be broadcast on *Panorama* tonight, by reacting sharply.

Mr Weinberger will issue a warning that it will be difficult to hold together the 16-nation Nato alliance if a Labour government were to impose unilateralist policies and close down the US nuclear bases in Britain, America's main staging post in Europe.

Mr Perle, appearing last night on the Channel Four *Inquiry*, also predicted the destabilization of Nato.

"The one circumstance in which one can imagine serious degradation of the American nuclear commitment is that you should have in power in the United Kingdom a Kinnock government committed to denuclearization on the part of the United Kingdom," he said.

"I do not think that one can expect the American people to accept the risks entailed in offering nuclear guarantees to a country that is not prepared to accept any risks itself, and to accept any risks itself."

Continued on page 4, col 7

Blunkett sparks clash on taxes

By Our Political Editor

Labour's conference opened last night with an embarrassing clash over taxation. Mr David Blunkett, a member of the party's National Executive and leader of Sheffield City Council, urged Mr Kinnock and the Shadow Chancellor, Mr Roy Hattersley, to be honest and admit that Labour's plans could not be implemented without an increase in the standard rate of income tax.

The Labour leadership has maintained that the party's programme for tackling unemployment and boosting benefits can be implemented by increasing taxes on those earning more than £27,000 a year. But Mr Blunkett told a fringe meeting in Blackpool yesterday "You can't sustain a credible drive for socialism if you only say you will increase tax for those earning over £28,000 or £30,000 a year."

"In my view there will have to be a return to a higher standard rate of income tax and people will respect us for saying so."

Mr Blunkett's remarks were just the kind of shock Mr Kinnock and his senior colleagues had hoped to avoid at what they expect to be the last Labour Party Conference before the next election.

But Mr Hattersley has been suggesting that Labour's programme can be financed precisely that way. Mr Blunkett's remarks were in stark contrast to an interview given earlier yesterday to the BBC's *This Week Next* by Mr Kinnock.

He claimed: "We have the means to transfer from the very best off in society to the people who are very badly off in society a sum which will at least give them a decent amount to live on."

Asked whether Labour ought not to be talking of increasing taxes on those earning £15,000 or even £10,000 a year, Mr Kinnock replied that he did not see virtue in taxation of itself. "Imposing additional slabs of taxation on people on whom you don't need to impose taxes, £15,000 a year, people on £10,000 a year, it's got no merit of itself."

These include: a lower retirement age for men, universal entitlement to adult education, more overseas aid, a comprehensive national disability income, possible cuts in the working week, an educational maintenance award to 16-18 year olds, more nursery education, a phased increase in student grants, increased spending on the arts, pay for local councillors, an end to private practice in the NHS, and increased death grants.

The institute also criticizes Mr MacGregor's costings for concentrating on only the gross cost of Labour's measures.



The image-makers: Mr and Mrs Kinnock in Blackpool yesterday displaying the party's new red rose symbol. (Photograph: Chris Harris)

TSB seven times oversubscribed on £1.5bn offer

By Lawrence Lever

No one apart from priority applicants is guaranteed to receive shares in the Trustee Savings Bank's £1.5 billion public offer, and no applicant will be given more than a few thousand shares.

The bank will announce this afternoon the basis on which it has decided to allocate shares for the offer which was seven times oversubscribed with £5.5 billion sent in by almost 5 million applicants.

On Saturday morning the TSB held a ballot to determine who will receive shares. Applicants will shortly know their fate as the bank will be cashing the cheques of successful applicants this morning.

It is believed that applications for more than four million shares will not be allocated any. One City institution applied for 100 million shares.

The bank has scaled down the allocations of all successful applicants so that even those applying for the minimum 400 shares, will, if successful in the ballot, receive only about 300. The TSB is likely to start with 3 million shareholders, leaving 2 million disappointed. Dealings have had to be delayed by two days.

The only applicants guaranteed shares are the 1.25 million TSB employees or accountholders. Half of the shares on offer were reserved for them. But only those who applied for a few shares are likely to receive their applications in full.

The TSB and its accountants, Peat Marwick, are now investigating about 5,000 suspected multiple applications. Photograph, page 17

Man Utd locked in basement

By Our Sports Staff

The darkness surrounding Manchester United deepens. Locked securely in the basement of the first division, they lost at home yesterday for the third time this season.

United are lying on the wings of outrageous misfortune. As well as hitting the bar, they had two penalties saved in as many minutes by the Chelsea goalkeeper who once played under the United manager, Ron Atkinson, at West Bromwich Albion.

Lloyd Honeyghan, of Bournemouth, achieved the most memorable win in British boxing since Randolph Turpin took the middleweight title from Sugar Ray Robinson 35 years ago, when he stopped undisputed world welterweight champion Donald Curry, of the United States, in six rounds at Atlantic City.

Like Robinson in his time, Curry was rated by boxing experts to be pound for pound, the best in the world. Full reports, page 32

Sir Robert Helpmann dies at 77

By Nicholas Beeson

Sir Robert Helpmann, one of the world's most acclaimed dancers and choreographers, died yesterday in his native Australia at the age of 77.

Sir Robert, whose career in the performing arts in Britain and Australia spanned more than 50 years, died at Sydney's Royal North Shore Hospital. He was admitted for treatment earlier this year suffering from gastric and chronic respiratory illnesses.

Dame Ninette de Valois, the founder and director of the Royal Ballet, said yesterday: "I knew he was ill, but he told me he had acted a mime role two months ago and his death comes as a shock."

Mr Peter Wright, the director of Sadler's Wells said: "His death is a great loss."

Mr Noel Pelly, the Australian Ballet Company administrator, described Sir Robert as "the greatest Australian in the field of the arts this century". Obituary, page 14.

Hammer fails to free Danilo

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

Dr Armand Hammer, the 88-year-old American millionaire, last week launched a secret, personal mission designed to try and speed up the release of Mr Nicholas Danilo, the American journalist awaiting trial here on spying charges.

Western sources confirmed here last night that Dr Hammer flew to Moscow early last week and held two meetings about the Danilo affair with a senior Soviet official whom they did not identify.

He then flew back to the US, where a spokesman for his company, Occidental Petroleum, emphasized that he had been acting on his own initiative and not at the behest of the Administration.

Colleagues of Mr Danilo at the Moscow office of the *US News and World Report*, the magazine he represented here for five and a half years, said that they had not been informed of Dr Hammer's intervention. They added that Mr Danilo and his wife, Ruth, remained at their temporary accommodation inside the US Embassy compound "anxiously awaiting" the outcome of Soviet-American diplomatic contacts in the US.

It was understood that Dr Hammer was attempting to use his remarkable personal rapport with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, to try and bring about a softening of the Soviet stand. Continued on page 16, col 8

Laid-back spacemen learn to be calm

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The first progress report has been issued on the condition of 10 human guinea pigs who are lying flat on their backs for a year in a bizarre attempt to determine the physical and psychological effects of marathon space flights such as one envisaged to Mars.

The unprecedented experiment, being conducted by the Soviet Health Ministry, began last spring when the 10, including a doctor, a technician and a mechanical engineer, took to their beds in a Soviet laboratory.

They are wheeled to the bathroom and toilet and receive most food through tubes. Five receive vitamins and do exercises, while the

others do not move at all. They were picked from 100 applicants who volunteered to become modern-day Obolovs. A report in *Izvestia* from their bedsides said it was too early to draw conclusions about the physical effects of their inactivity, but it had already led to character changes.

Scientists noted that at first the volunteers argued a lot among themselves, but had subsequently learnt more patience and tolerance. Even their limited calls home had to be curtailed because they became upsetting.

"We watch television and the physicians take up a lot of our time," explained one volunteer, Mr Igor Poyarkov, a keen yachtsman who keeps colour pictures of boats above his bed.

"After dinner, we talk to each other. Sometimes we simply contemplate life - it is a good occasion to analyse one's life."

In the months since the experiment began, most of the group have lost their ambition to use their enforced leisure constructively.

"When we started, everybody planned a lot to read literature, to learn a foreign language - things like that," said Mr Poyarkov.

To be frank, these plans were not fulfilled. Now we just read thrillers and historical novels.

"Little by little we learnt to respect each other's opinions."

Pressure grows for controls on mortgage loans

By Staff Reporters

The Government is facing mounting pressure to control the spiralling cost of buying a home. The results of an investigation by *The Times* suggest that, as the rate of mortgage arrears and repossessions continues to rise, there is an urgent need to:

- Make the rules governing the amount financial institutions can lend more stringent.
- Introduce legislation to make "gazumping" illegal.
- End the current harsh and haphazard debt collection practices, and adopt a more humane system.
- Give increased financial support to independent advisory bodies, such as the Birmingham Settlement Money Advice Centre.
- Curb unscrupulous second mortgage firms and companies which exploit headhunters.
- Revitalize a government scheme, designed to help first-time buyers, which is now out of date.

Fierce competition in the mortgage market has led to a disturbing increase in repossessions and arrears. Repossessions increased from 10,870 in 1974, to 16,770 in 1985, up by 54 per cent.

If arrears alone are taken into account, the picture is much more alarming. According to the Lord Chancellor's Department, which monitors the number of court cases in England and Wales, 42,555 home-owners faced court orders for repossession in 1985, up from 35,397 in 1984.

Those figures, however, have been criticised for seriously underestimating the real extent of the problem. Unofficial figures suggest that about 300,000 owner-occupiers across the whole spectrum of home ownership, who have borrowed far more than they can repay, now have serious mortgage arrears.

A growing number of financial experts argue that the problem is the result of over-lending policies and the industry has been warned to put its house in order or face Government action.

The Governor of the Bank of England, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, has already told lenders "to resist pressures to allow lending criteria to become excessively lax".

Sir Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, said:

"Financial institutions of all kinds are falling over themselves in their eagerness to offer credit and, indeed, to thrust credit upon us. They must recognize that they have a responsibility to help solve the problem they have created or face the prospect of government regulation that would force them to do so."

Dr John Doling, a senior lecturer at Birmingham University's Centre for Urban Regional Studies, who made a two-year study of mortgage debt, said: "Official figures from the building societies are misleading to say the least. There are some 300,000 owner-occupiers in serious

Continued on page 16, col 1



Spectrum 10

Drug tests for armed services

By a Staff Reporter

The Ministry of Defence will subject servicemen to routine drug tests for the first time in the new year.

The ministry has ordered 10 revolutionary urinalysis machines to test servicemen who are suspected of taking drugs. The machines will replace the more usual tests carried out by police and doctors in forensic science laboratories.

The machines will be used, in accordance with the Police and Criminal Evidence Act of 1984, to aid investigations into drug abuse.

Army personnel of all ranks who are believed to be taking drugs will be required by the Royal Military Police to take the drug detection tests, which can trace and identify every

Chancellor hits at dealers

By Our City Staff

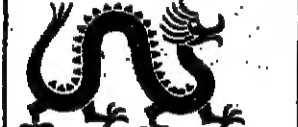
The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, blamed financial market dealers for having an almost unhealthy preoccupation with very short-term concerns.

He was speaking as ministers and bankers, meeting in Washington, feared that continued pressure on the pound in the foreign exchange markets might force a rise in bank interest rates this week.

The seven leading industrial countries, meeting before the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund, failed over the weekend to agree new initiatives to stabilize exchange rates. Foreign exchange dealers are now likely to resume sales of both the dollar and sterling.

Full statement, page 22

Tomorrow Sweet and sour



When the Queen visits China next month she will find many signs of the West: booming hotels, restaurants, motorways and free enterprise. A major series starts with a look at how the Chinese are coping with capitalism.

Portfolio Gold

● There is £24,000 to be won in *The Times* Portfolio Gold weekly competition next Saturday, three times the usual amount because there has been no winner for the past two weeks.
● Saturday's £4,000 daily prize was shared by two readers, Mr A Harwood of Pulborough, West Sussex, and Mr Kenneth Hunt of Strivenham, Wits. Details, page 3.
● There is a further £4,000 to be won today. Portfolio list page 20; rules and how to play, information service, page 16.

Beirut battle

Fresh fighting was reported on Beirut's "Green Line" battlefield after a clash between rival forces in Christian east Beirut in which at least 30 people were killed. Page 7

Secrecy ends

In an unprecedented break with secrecy, the Soviet Union opened parts of its main nuclear test site in Central Asia to Western, Japanese and Soviet bloc journalists. Page 6

London list

A further list of London University degrees is published today. Page 22

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NEWS SUMMARY

Civil Service union poll set for re-run

The 150,000 members of Britain's largest Civil Service union expect to be told this week that there will be a re-run of the election which earlier this year installed the Militant Mr John Macreadie as its general secretary (Tim Jones writes).

Since his election, the Civil and Public Services Association has been strife-torn with allegations of ballot rigging and counter claims of manipulation by a "right-wing clique".

In the election, caused by the departure of Mr Alistair Graham to the Industrial Society, Mr Macreadie defeated the moderate candidate Mr John Ellis by 20,424 votes to 20,393 on a 40 per cent turnout.

Since then, complaints of irregularities in the CPSA vote have been investigated by the Electoral Reform Society, whose report is to be examined by the union's executive this week.

Radio quiz scrapped

The BBC yesterday rejected suggestions that the long-running schools' radio quiz programme, *Top of the Form*, was being scrapped because its competitive basis is unfashionable in progressive educational circles (Michael McCarthy writes).

Mr Graham Frost, the programme's producer, was quoted in a Sunday newspaper as saying that people no longer liked the idea of winners and losers. He was reported as saying: "They fear that children who get the answers wrong might be embarrassed. I am afraid the show no longer fits today's philosophy."

But yesterday the BBC, while confirming that the present series of *Top of the Form* is to be the last, denied that the element of competition had anything to do with the decision to end it. "The programme has simply come to the end of its natural life. We want to make room for other programmes from time to time."

The popular quiz, which features schools from all over Britain locked in a general knowledge battle, has been on the air since 1948.

Bat caves 3 stabbed opened

Britain's first artificial bat cave was officially opened in north-west London at the weekend to provide a winter home for the protected nocturnal animals.

The London Wildlife Trust has built the hibernaculum where bats can roost during their winter hibernation, in a field study centre at Birchen Grove, in the London borough of Brent.

The hibernaculum has been built into a mound of earth reinforced with oak beams and covered with wire mesh for the bats to hang from. The large insulated chamber can house several hundred of them.

Similar caves are planned for Kent and Wiltshire.

Firearms given back

Mr Ian Wood, the solicitor wanted for questioning about two murders, has twice had his collection of guns confiscated because.

The first time they were taken because he was suffering from stress and the guns were returned two weeks later after a doctor's examination, the police said.

On the second occasion they were taken because of an administrative problem with renewing his firearms licence.

They were returned when the licence was renewed. Mr Wood is wanted for questioning about the murder of Danielle Lede, aged 37, and her daughter, Stephanie, aged three. He has made more than ten telephone calls since the deaths, many to Sheffield journalists, and he has threatened to kill himself.

Ice rink protests

The Rev Ian Paisley (right) led protesters yesterday at the Sunday opening of the new £4.5 million Dendonald International ice bowl, Belfast.

The ice rink, which is claimed to be the largest in the UK, was opened on Tuesday by Mr Peter Robinson, Paisley's deputy. Yesterday it was packed with spectators.

The protesters are trying to get the signatures of 11,400 ratepayers for a referendum on Sunday opening, arguing that operation of the ice-rink is a further desecration of the "traditional Ulster Sabbath".



Churches quarrel

Bishop defends his pastoral care of 'deposed' US priest

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

An unprecedented crisis in the relationship between the Church of England and its American counterpart, the Episcopal Church, has arisen over the intervention of the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard, in an ecclesiastical quarrel in Oklahoma.

The House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church issued a lengthy and outspoken protest to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, before the weekend. Yesterday it was announced that Dr Runcie is raising the issue with the English House of Bishops next month.

Meanwhile, it has emerged that Dr Leonard himself is to visit the parish at the centre of the storm, St Michael's, Tulsa. In a letter to his diocese yesterday he defended his right to offer pastoral care to any part of the Anglican Communion which was no longer under local jurisdiction.

That is the case of St Michael's, Tulsa, where the parish priest, Father John Pasco, has been "deposed" by the Bishop of Oklahoma, the Right Rev Gerald McAllister. Whether the deposition is because of alleged financial irregularity, or whether it is because Father Pasco is a

conservative opposed to such developments as the ordination of women is part of the quarrel.

Father Pasco approached Dr Leonard earlier this year when he was in the United States. The bishop agreed that, provided Father Pasco was now outside the jurisdiction of the local Episcopal bishop, he would regard him as "in communion" with the see of London.

Subsequently Dr Leonard agreed to send the Bishop of Fulham, the Right Rev John Klyberg, to Tulsa to administer confirmation on October 12.

Dr Runcie has already discussed the quarrel at length with Dr Leonard after an earlier protest from the American primate, Dr Edmond Browning. Dr Leonard's letter to his diocese yesterday is his indirect reply.

The American House of Bishops said (without mentioning Dr Leonard) that the interference by outside bishops in internal Episcopal affairs was "deplorable, destructive, and irresponsible". An American bishop who interfered like that would be liable to be deposed himself.

It is the expectation of this

Inquiry into Property Services Agency's missing millions
MPs to probe building 'scandals'

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

A full-scale inquiry is about to be launched by the Commons environment select committee into what one of its members has described as the "scandals" of the Government's Property Services Agency.

A central part of the investigation will be into the enormous discrepancies between the estimated and actual costs of building projects undertaken by the PSA, and whether those are the result of clients changing specifications, incompetence by the PSA, or fraud.

About 40 examples of "wildly wrong" estimates have been presented to the committee, including an overspend of £1.5 million, or 114 per cent, on a Foreign Office

building at Hanslope Park, Buckinghamshire, of nearly £5 million on a £19 million relocation of the laboratory of the Government Chemist, and of nearly £8 million on a planned £16.6 million remand prison at Brinsford, Staffordshire.

Stage one of the new British Library is now £17 million over its original estimate of £57 million, while improvements to the eastern galleries of the Natural History Museum, estimated at just under £1 million, have risen to nearly £1.5 million.

At Derby Crown Court, costs have risen by 77 per cent or £2.6 million, of which £700,000 was for redesigned fire escapes because the local fire authorities were not consulted on the original design. The committee has been

consistently critical in its standard annual reports on the PSA's expenditure. Other aspects of its work that the MPs are likely to probe are:

An "alarming" £100 million backlog of maintenance of civil buildings managed by the PSA. That figure does not include maintenance of defence establishments.

The failure of the PSA to buy the valuable freeholds of government buildings when they become available. That has been blamed on Treasury refusal to make money available on a contingency basis.

The "deplorable" lack of hard evidence that the three-year-old Property Services Agency scheme, under which the PSA charges government departments according to the office accommodation they use, has produced any econo-

mies. The scheme costs around £650,000 a year to run. An 11 per cent rise in the PSA's rent bill this year, well above the inflation rate of less than 5 per cent.

Whether local managers, government offices and buildings should not be given greater powers to carry out their own repair and building work; and the need for the PSA to produce proper commercial accounts.

The PSA, which employs 26,000 people and administers a £2.2 billion annual budget, has been the subject of frequent fraud and corruption allegations in recent years.

Between 1979 and 1983 admitted fraud losses totalled £840,000, but a report by the Commons Public Accounts Committee in 1984 claimed

that was "the tip of the iceberg". In the same period, 66 staff were dismissed, out of 200 staff disciplined over irregularities.

In 1984 there were 69 new cases of suspected fraud and in the first five months of 1985 a further 25 cases. Next month nine PSA officials, along with nine building contractors and a former employee of the now-defunct Greater London Council will appear in court facing 88 charges concerning alleged bribes in return for government contracts.

In September last year a Conservative MP, Mr Francis Maude, wrote to Sir George Young, then junior minister at the Department of the Environment, urging the PSA's abolition as "the only effective and efficient solution to the problems of the PSA".



Mrs Jemima Parry-Jones, of the Falconry Centre in Newent, Gloucestershire, with an African crowned eagle on her wrist and a marital eagle, both of which are being returned to the wild of their native Zimbabwe. The birds, which had been reared from eggs stolen in Zimbabwe, were confiscated along with seven others by the customs in 1984. They will be flown out free by British Airways next month and released in the Matopo Hills (Photograph: Mike Charity).

Jopling's EEC initiative

Paying farmers not to grow

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

A proposal to take 7.5 million acres of cereal land in the EEC out of production to reduce the community's mountain of surplus grain will be made today by Mr Michael Jopling, the Minister for Agriculture.

Under the plan, which Mr Jopling will put to agriculture ministers from 12 EEC member states at a conference at Ambleside, Lake District, cereal farmers will be compensated for taking their land out of production: up to £80 an acre if the land lies fallow, less if alternative crops are grown.

Mr Jopling, the current president of the EEC Council, and his officials have estimated that it will cost £800 million a year initially. The British Government

has already circulated a discussion document outlining the scheme to take land out of cereals production, either permanently or for a minimum term of perhaps five years.

Although so-called "set aside" schemes have been widely discussed, and have been tried in a somewhat different form in the United States, this is the first time that a British Government, and probably any EEC government, has officially signalled that it is prepared to consider paying farmers not to produce.

The discussion paper estimates that if three million hectares of cereal land were converted, half to fallow and half to producing alternative

crops, the cost would be £800 million a year.

But against that would be set the savings on the cost of buying and storing surpluses which could amount to £6,250 million over five years.

In terms of unit cost, it would be more economic to pay about £50 a tonne on hypothetical yields from poorer land to keep it fallow, than to buy grain at £112 a tonne and store it for perhaps the whole period of the scheme.

But the National Farmers' Union has described the scheme as unworkable, pointing out that, if it is to be voluntary, it will not be taken up on a big enough scale, especially in France and West Germany.

Ulster link claim on Stalker

By Our Political Reporter

A Conservative MP claimed yesterday that new evidence of a "Northern Ireland connection" in the false allegations made against Mr John Stalker raised questions about how much confidence can be attached to the Sampson report on the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Mr Cecil Franks, MP for Barrow and Furness, sent documentary evidence to Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, last Friday which showed that the criminal who made the allegations against Mr Stalker was also working for the RUC as an informant against the IRA.

Mr Franks said yesterday that it was "incredible" and "inconceivable" that the connection had not been picked up by Mr Colin Sampson, the chief constable of West Yorkshire, in his separate inquiry into the Stalker allegations.

However, that inquiry, conducted by seven senior police officers with six support staff and costing £250,000, had dismissed any "Northern Ireland connection".

The allegations led to Mr Stalker being suspended from his post as deputy chief constable of Greater Manchester last May, when he was investigating the RUC's alleged shoot-to-kill policy in Northern Ireland.

According to *The Observer* yesterday, the criminal, David Berlestein, was tried in September 1984 alongside a Mr Mark Knapik, for whom Berlestein had worked and who was charged with running a fraudulent firm and making a deal with the IRA.

The court was cleared when Berlestein pleaded guilty. It was then revealed that Berlestein was a paid informant, and his sentence was cut to two and a half years. Berlestein died suddenly of a heart attack in prison in March 1985.

Mr Franks has now renewed his call for a full independent judicial inquiry into the Stalker suspension and believes the "ball is very firmly in the Home Office's hand".

"My view is that sooner or later there will have to be a judicial inquiry," he said.

MPs again try to end filibusters

By Our Political Reporter

Senior backbench MPs, who believe they were outrageously treated by the Government earlier this year, are to make a fresh attempt next week to push through procedural changes in the House of Commons.

The all-party procedure committee, chaired by the Conservative MP, Sir Peter Emery, is to publish a second report on ways of ending the present "non-sense" whereby early opposition filibustering in the committee stage means that important Bills often go to the Lords with two thirds of their clauses barely looked at.

The Leader of the House, Mr John Biffen, has intimated that he will not allow this second report to be debated in government time.

But so determined is the committee to "drag the Commons into the twentieth century" that it will if necessary get the report debated in private members' time.

In February, after a large government "payroll" vote defeated the committee's earlier recommendations, Mr Biffen claimed that they were too formal and inflexible, and that filibustering was a legitimate political weapon.

Publishers try to avert writers' ban

By Nicholas Beeson

One of Britain's largest book publishers is negotiating with the Society of Authors to head off a threatened boycott by 3,500 writers about a dispute involving royalties.

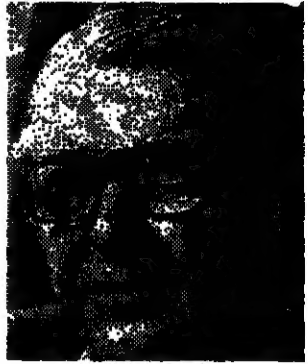
Century Hutchinson, publishers of Anthony Burgess and Kingsley Amis, have been negotiating with the society for a "code of practice" for new authors, but the talks have stumbled over a demand that licensing rights for a work should return to the writer.

Publishers now hold the rights for an author's lifetime and for a further 50 years until the copyright expires.

The society would like authors to have the power to renegotiate 20 years after the book is first published, the right to demand higher royalties and, if necessary, change publishers. Four publishers have so far agreed to the demand.

Mr Anthony Cheetham, chairman and managing director of Century Hutchinson, said he was confident the basis for an agreement could be reached with the society, before it debates what action to take at its annual meeting in two weeks.

He said he was willing to meet the conditions of the new code of practice, which in-



Kingsley Amis, on publisher's list

clude raising royalty fees to 10 per cent and paying larger minimum advances, but argued it was unfair to the publishers to have to give up licensing rights after 20 years.

"The relationship between an author and a publisher is much more like a partnership," he said. "This proposal ignores the fact that publishers have a creative input as well, and we have intellectual copyright."

Although it is likely that some compromise can be found for non-fiction material, novels could remain a stumbling block because it can often take a writer many years to become established and publishers want to retain the rights over all the works.

No end of monkey business without bananas

By Michael McCarthy

The last thing you expect to see on a Sunday morning on the M4, the spokesman for Wiltshire police said, is a three-foot high green monkey.

Pink elephants, perhaps. But even motorists who never touch a drop could witness the sight of a scampering simian yesterday as Zacharie, an African green monkey who has been on the run for the past 11 weeks, made an excursion on to the motorway.

Zacharie escaped from the home of his owner, Mrs Marjorie Boul, in North Wiltshire, near Chippenham, and has since been defying all attempts to recapture him.

His straying on to the M4 yesterday led to an RSPCA inspector, Mr Ernie Ingram, spending several hours clambering through a copse, hampered by the unavailability of suitable banana bait in rural Wiltshire early on a Sunday morning.

His efforts availed him naught so M4 motorists, he warned.

Mrs Boul, aged 51, shares her home with four dogs and 16 cats. She bought Zacharie for £150 earlier this year from Swansea zoo where, she said, he had "failed to fit in".

She said: "He was far too soft and they all picked on him."

"He was very friendly and seemed to be settling in well but I must have underesti-

mated him because he managed to unlock the kitchen door.

In his spell of freedom Zacharie has moved just a couple of miles to a sheltered valley and is thought to be living off apples and plums from local orchards.

Police, however, are not convinced of the gentleness of Zacharie's disposition and are advising members of the public not to "have a go" at him, or no banana, in case Zacharie bites.

But the design was rejected by Westminster council as being unsuited to its setting in a key conservation area close to historic structures of national importance.

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£20 excess council car park fine proposed

By Hugh Clayton

A standard excess charge of £20 should be imposed on motorists who fail to "pay and display" at council car parks, the Audit Commission says. Most councils demand excess charges of less than £10 and many motorists never bother to pay.

Its research, based on a survey of 370 councils, shows that only about two-thirds of those who are told to pay excess charges actually do so, whether the charge is £2 or £20.

Raising the charge to a standard £20 would probably not reduce the number who pay. But it would help to eliminate a gap, worth £100 million a year, between what councils raise and what they could raise if they worked as efficiently as possible.

The commission, a quango that monitors council spending, says that several types of debt are out of control in some councils. It believes that an annual £100 million could be raised through better management of council cash-flows. Its report about cash flows, which is to be published on Thursday, was leaked at the weekend.

The commission says that the amount of money handled by councils is so vast that enormous waste can be generated if several of these include in a few minor inefficient practices. The collection and management of the money charged in rates costs £500 million a year and involves 400 million separate transactions across the country.

Councils are less worried than companies about managing their cash flow efficiently because they do not risk being put out of business by failing to do so.

The commission's survey suggests that councils could have secured £50 million last year by collecting rates income a fortnight earlier than they actually did. Late collection does not just delay the arrival of the money, it also prevents councils from investing it to gain interest.

That argument was at the heart of the case brought by district auditors against Labour councillors who delayed collecting rates in the hope of winning aid from the Government.

The surcharge of more than £100,000 claimed from Mr Ted Knight and other Labour councillors in Lambeth, south London, was an estimate of the interest that foregone through late collection of rates.

The commission says that there are many ways for councils to make the best use of their cash, including banking cheques as soon as they are received and claiming all government grants as soon as they become available.

It suggests that all councils should cut the new standard excess charge from £20 to £10 for motorists who pay in a few days. The survey shows that more excess charges are paid if a reduced rate is offered for prompt payment. It advises councils that a cut-rate offer is a good way to encourage payment that could usefully be extended to parking meters.

Pursuing individual motorists who refuse to pay excess parking charges was awkward because their names had to be supplied by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre, in Swansea.

Improving Cash Flow Management (Stationery Office, £5.90).

Thames river bus scheme is threatened

Lavish plans for a river bus service through the heart of London are in jeopardy, according to the Thames Water Authority, which is spearheading the scheme. It could not say how or whether it would ever get under way (Hugh Clayton writes).

The authority said yesterday that it would appeal to Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, in a dispute with the Conservative-led Westminster City Council about plans to replace the wooden landing stage at Westminster pier with a lavish covered shopping centre.

The new pier is a key part of the authority's hopes for a regular river bus service that would use a number of piers along the Thames as bus stops.

Mr Roy Watts, chairman of the authority, insists that all new business ventures by the authority should pay for themselves and not be financed out of water rates. The landing stage was to be replaced by a much larger floating complex with shops and restaurants.

But the design was rejected by Westminster council as being unsuited to its setting in a key conservation area close to historic structures of national importance.

But the design was rejected by Westminster council as being unsuited to its setting in a key conservation area close to historic structures of national importance.

Survey resource fight

Professor 'faking'

Pill could improve athletes

By John...

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Survey shows more resources needed to fight drug menace

MPs of all the main political parties are urging the Government to strengthen the country's police and customs forces in the wake of a survey carried out by *The Times* into their efforts to control the illegal drug trade.

The survey showed that in spite of assurances, the resources of the customs and police authorities around the country are still inadequate to deal with the growing scale of the problem. Last week Mr John Dellow, the Metropolitan Police assistant commissioner, disclosed that organized crime syndicates were estimated to be making more than £500 million a year from drug trafficking.

The survey of more than a dozen urban and rural police forces showed that in London, where half the country's hard drug problem is concentrated, Scotland Yard has just 57 officers who specialize in drugs offences. Although this is 19 up on last year's total, such increases have had no tangible effect.

According to Mr Colin Hewitt, Scotland Yard's assistant commissioner and the country's top drug intelligence co-ordinator, an increasingly cynical view was spreading among both pushers and police. This was that drug misusers were "volunteers" and nobody had to be involved in drug-taking unless they wanted to.

In the West Midlands area, which covers Birmingham and Coventry, the number of officers earmarked exclusively for anti-drug duties has fallen

In July last year, Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, called for urgent action against drug traffickers. He said: "There seem to be few signs of urgency. How many more years will go by, how many more children and young persons will have to die degrading deaths, before action is taken?" Today, a survey by *The Times* discloses that still not enough is being done.

to match the increase in drug offences. While the number in the drug squad rose by a mere four between 1974 and 1984, the total of drug arrests rose sharply from 470 to 1,117 during the same period.

A similar pattern emerges from Glasgow, where the number of drug-related cases in the Strathclyde area has nearly tripled in the past five years. Its drug squad was increased by 11 officers in September 1984 to a current total of 30. "The flow of drugs into Strathclyde is still rising sharply," Sgt Angus Kennedy said. "But we are working hard to contain it."

In rural areas such as Devon and Cornwall, which has a drug squad consisting of 22 officers (up from 19 in 1978), a police spokesman said that the squad would have been much bigger if more officers had been available.

The customs service, too, has failed to get the extra men which its members say they need. The latest figures show that the force took on a mere 185 extra men this year, compared with the 1,000, which their union, the Society of Civil and Public Servants, demanded. The force, which comprises some 6,900 officers in the ports plus 262 specialist investigators into drug-related

offences, is trying to cope with an influx of 2,000,000 cars and 20,000,000 passengers a year.

Commenting on the results of the survey, Mr Jim Craig, Labour MP for Maryhill and joint secretary of the all-party group on drug abuse, said that the Government had "no face up to the very real need for extra police manpower".

But, faced with the latest gloomy predictions of a dramatic increase in cocaine smuggling from South America, its priority must be to pour more funds into the customs service.

Mr Charles Kennedy, SDP member for Ross, Cromarty and Skye and the Alliance spokesman for health and social services, said that it was time the Government realized that "a Saatchi and Saatchi approach" would not lead to a substantial solution to the drugs problem.

Mr Tom Sackville, Conservative MP for Bolton West, and a senior member of the parliamentary drug abuse group, said that not enough was being done by the Government to pay for vitally needed equipment at Britain's airports. More sniffer dogs and better computer technology was required to get a real grip on the problem, he said.



David and Zoe Imeson, aged eight and four, limbering up with their grandmother, Mrs Grace Crawley, aged 70 (second left), and their parents, Mr and Mrs Barry Imeson, from Pinner, Middlesex, for *The Sunday Times* Fan Run in Hyde Park yesterday. About 30,000 people took part and helped to raise money for this year's nominated charity, the Prince of Wales Advisory Group on Disability (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater).

BR clamp on fare dodging passengers

By Rodney Cowton
Transport Correspondent

British Rail is extending measures to deal with passengers found to be travelling without a ticket.

From next Sunday, anyone travelling during off-peak times without a ticket will not be allowed to pay a concessionary fare to the train guard or the ticket inspector. Instead, he or she will be charged the much more expensive standard single fare.

The system has been in use for some time in Scotland and the west of England. A spokesman for British Rail described the extension as "a revenue protection exercise".

He said that loss of revenue through people travelling without tickets, or not paying the correct fare, ran into tens of millions of pounds a year.

He said that if a passenger travelling without a ticket had a good reason for doing so, for example because the ticket office at the station had been closed, he or she would be issued with a concessionary ticket.

For a passenger making a single journey the new system will not add to the cost.

However, for someone intending to make a return journey that would have qualified for a concessionary fare, it will mean a significant additional cost.

Portfolio Gold—£2,000 win will be invested

Two readers share Saturday's Portfolio Gold prize of £2,000.

Mr Albert Harwood, aged 58, from Coldharbour, near Fulborough, West Sussex, has been playing the Portfolio Gold game since it started.

A family friend said that Mr Harwood, who is a clerk with British Rail, was "absolutely delighted" with his win.

"He plans to invest the money", the friend said.

The second winner, Mr Kenneth Hunt, of Shrewsbury, Wiltshire, was away for the weekend.

There were no winners of the weekly £16,000 prize. Readers who wish to play the game can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold,
The Times,
PO Box 40,
Blackburn,
BB1 6AJ.

Prize offer to beat crime

Prizes of up to £5,000 are to be awarded for the best and original invention. Design Against Crime is open to anyone, although there are separate categories for individuals, schools and manufacturers.

The competition is sponsored by the Department of Trade and Industry and the British Security Industry Association.

Rugby heroes

The rugby-playing cousins, brothers-in-law, fathers and sons of the Hughes family, of Brynmawr, Gwent, took on and beat the Davies family, of Penygroes, Dyfed, by 14-0 in a charity match at Brynmawr yesterday.

Rape alerts

Rape alarms will be issued to 800 new girl students at Trent Polytechnic, Nottingham, next week by the Students Union at a cost of £1,500.

Out of line

Mr Erik Latham, aged 77, has been reported to the police for allegedly painting out double yellow lines on the road outside his home in Glamorgan, enabling callers to park there legally.

Boys rescued

Two schoolboys trapped 100ft up a cliff were rescued by firemen at Llanrhaeadr, Ceredigion, on Saturday. The boys, from Liverpool, were not injured.

Roof protest

Fourteen prisoners at the Risley Remand Centre in Cheshire continued a roof-top protest against overcrowding yesterday. All visits to the remand centre have been suspended.

Professor faces 'faking' inquiry

Claims that Professor Michael Briggs, a British scientist, fabricated evidence on the safety of a new generation of contraceptive pills are to be investigated this week by the Committee on the Safety of Medicines.

A spokesman said the committee, an advisory body to the Government, would be examining published allegations yesterday in *The Sunday Times*. The committee is not changing its advice that the pill should be prescribed as low a dose as possible.

The committee will also be considering two recent and conflicting reports, one from Norway and Sweden and the other from New Zealand, about possible links between the pill and breast cancer.

The Sunday Times reports quotes Professor Michael Briggs, who is described as one of the most influential international experts on contraceptives and an adviser to the World Health Organization, as admitting "serious deceptions" in his research.

The report claims that this "deception" puts a question mark on the safety checks on a new generation of contraceptive pills being taken by up to two million women in Britain.

The report says a number of products, including Logynon and Trinordiol in Britain, were granted licences on the basis of submissions including work by Professor Briggs over more than a decade.

Professor Briggs is quoted in the report as admitting that he had "pretended" to have organised studies of the effects of oral contraceptives, and that the studies had in fact been organised by someone else.

The Sunday Times says Professor Briggs' findings had now become part of medical literature and were included in the work of nearly all major contraceptive researchers.

Dr John Dawson, head of the professional and scientific section of the British Medical Association, said it was unlikely that the BMA would be taking any action in this case.

More girls smoking than boys

Girls are more likely than boys to smoke, according to a report published today.

A questionnaire involving 6,600 pupils in Welsh secondary schools found more than one in five of the girls smoked, compared with one in seven of the boys. The figures rose among older girls, with one in three fifth-year girls smoking.

While young pupils were more likely to believe that smoking made them look "tough and grown-up", older children tended to give their reasons for smoking as "it helps to calm the nerves and keeps you slim".

But most smokers and non-smokers admitted they knew the habit was likely to damage health, according to the survey, the first of its kind conducted in Britain.

Regular smokers became increasingly common after 13, with more than a quarter of 13 to 16-year-olds claiming they did their smoking "in or around school".

The report, *Youth and Smoking*, was compiled by Heartbeat Wales, an organization set up with government funding to improve health education in one of the worst regions for heart disease.

Smoking by parents, particularly fathers, was a significant factor in children taking up the habit. A much higher proportion of children who did not like school or who were under-achievers in the classroom were smokers, the report says.

It calls for tougher enforcement of the law barring the sale of cigarettes to children and the development of special programmes to improve school health education. Teachers should also keep any smoking to a minimum at school, it says.

Mr Huw Davies, of Heartbeat Wales, said: "This is a shocking report, because it shows so many young girls smoke. As well as sending youngsters home with educational qualifications, we need a comprehensive programme to help them make healthy choices in their lives."

Players killed

Three leading Northern Ireland hockey players were killed when their car was in collision with a van near their homes in Antrim at the weekend. They were Colin Rainey, aged 19, Harold Young, aged 21, and James Orr, aged 28.

Legal reforms

Law officer needed to protect public

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A Court of Appeal judge has called for the appointment of a Director of Civil Proceedings to protect the rights of individuals and ensure that court orders are observed.

Lord Justice Woolf said that, at present, this job fell to the Attorney General, but that posed problems because, as well as being the protector of the public interest, he was a member of the Government.

Frequently in recent years government departments had been found to be acting in breach of the law, he told the

annual conference of the British Legal Association in Oxford on Saturday.

"Whatever may be the position in theory, in practice the Attorney General cannot be expected to bring proceedings against a colleague or a department of the same government of which he is a member; yet it could be very desirable that such proceedings should be brought."

In industrial disputes he could ensure that court orders are not flagrantly breached and he could also take over the

duty of local district auditors to sue local councillors for misconduct.

A Director of Civil Proceedings would not be so readily subject to accusations of bad faith and political bias, Lord Justice Woolf said.

At present the burden of enforcing the public duties of government departments fell to private individuals or concerned bodies. Where a private individual was not prepared to take action, a "breach of duty" might continue unchecked.

Even if an individual did bring proceedings, he might decide not to continue them — although it would be in the public interest to do so, the judge said.

That was happening more and more in industrial disputes. A company was granted a court order to stop industrial action but then had second thoughts because of concern that the situation would be made worse, so it would hold back from enforcing its court order.

The result was that "blatant breaches of the injunction go unpunished", he said. That could be against the public interest and could bring the law "into contempt by creating the impression that court orders can be ignored".

Present proposals to reform the legal profession could mean rougher justice for the less fortunate and higher costs, the chairman of the British Legal Association, Mr Lewis Diamond told members.

Proposals to break down the distinctions between the two branches of the profession might sweep away a "superb and flexible system".

He added: "There is the possibility that the large body of experts represented by the Bar, will be snapped up by the few mammoth-size solicitors' firms for their clients and will no longer be available to ordinary people."

What would be left, he said, would be only "an upper range of vastly expensive super-experts".

Solicitors' case recognized

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

The granting of limited rights for solicitors to appear in simple crown court cases was mooted for the first time by the chairman of the Bar at the weekend.

Addressing the annual conference, Mr Robert Alexander, QC, accepted that there were arguments in favour of solicitors being allowed to take some crown court cases.

One possibility, he said, was a "licensing" system conducted by circuit judges and magistrates. They would decide which solicitors should have the extended rights, ensuring that it was "the competent solicitor advocate who gained access to the courts", he said.

"I do not believe many would wish a situation to develop where people could do

advocacy as an occasional occupation."

One argument in favour of solicitors taking crown court cases is that they have been with the client from the start, whereas barristers tend to come in at the last moment.

But that argument would lose much of its force if solicitors organized their work so that crown court advocates "only became involved at the crown court stage and had no prior dealings with the client".

The whole issue is now being examined by a joint committee on the legal profession set up by both branches.

Recently, however, Sir Alan Leslie, immediate past president of the Law Society, also put forward a proposal for extending crown court advocacy rights to only a limited

group of solicitors, those specializing in litigation.

The Bar chairman stopped short of endorsing the case for granting advocacy rights to solicitors.

There was no certainty it would be cheaper to have a solicitor both preparing the case and taking it in court, rather than employing two lawyers, because solicitors had higher overheads, he said.

He added that the crown courts provided valuable training for young barristers and it would be "unfortunate" if solicitors took all the straightforward cases and left the Bar with those that were a "misnamed, misnomer".

He emphasized, however, that any extension of crown court rights should not apply to the government lawyers.

DHSS to begin tough anti-fraud campaign

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Extra anti-fraud staff have begun the biggest crack-down yet against social security cheats who cost the country tens of millions of pounds every year.

About half of the 500 additional staff promised by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, are now in post.

There will be special attention paid to Department of Health and Social Security offices with exceptionally high numbers of board and lodging claimants.

They will be reinforcing efforts to combat benefit frauds and uncover collusion by landlords and prosecutors will be brought where evidence is available.

When all the extra staff have been appointed, they will augment the efforts of the 31 benefit fraud teams — one for each management group of offices — investigating allegations of fraud and bringing prosecutions.

In 1984-85 more than £100

million was saved by officials investigating fraud, according to Mr Fowler.

The regional teams were set up in 1981 to scrutinize local office caseloads and pursue cases in categories where there was a particular risk of fraud. Their aim was to stop fraudulent claims rather than to take cases to court.

More recently, their efforts have been directed at cases where local offices had a direct suspicion of fraud but lacked the resources to follow it up, and they have paid particular attention to specific groups of suspect claimants.

The new teams will give greater support to local offices to ensure that allegations of fraud are fully investigated with a view to bringing prosecution, the DHSS says.

Civil Service unions have opposed so-called specialist claims control, saying it puts people entitled to benefit under pressure to cease claiming.

Space research

Anglo-Soviet missions planned

By Keith Hindley

Talks start today in Moscow on the possibility of British scientific experiments hitching a ride on Soviet spacecraft.

A delegation of seven, led by Mr Roy Gibson, director general of the British National Space Centre (BNSC), are guests of academicians Professor Raik Sagardev, head of the Soviet Institute of Space Science.

The talks will cover joint research using British instruments as well as an exchange of people and information.

Professor Peter Willmore of Birmingham University space group will propose four experiments in X-ray astronomy and Professor Valerie Bowell of BNSC wants to discuss the growth of metals, and other materials, in zero gravity.

The Russians have always carried Eastern bloc experiments on their satellites but, to date, France has been their only collaborator in the West.

Mr Gibson says the UK delegation will not formally raise the possibility of a British astronaut flying on a Soviet mission. However, such an invitation was twice men-

tioned informally to Mr Geoffrey Pattle, the minister for trade and industry, during the visit of a British parliamentary group to Moscow in May.

Recent reports suggest that the offer will be formalized this week, if only because some of the most interesting zero gravity experiments being proposed will need skilled supervision in orbit. A lengthy manned flight with a serious scientific aim is the only kind that the BNSC team would find acceptable.

Mr Gibson expects the visit to be the first of many.

Pill could improve athletes

By John Goodbody
Sports News Correspondent

Some of Britain's leading athletes have been given advice on how to use the contraceptive pill to control the timing of their periods to achieve peak performances in important competitions.

Mrs Joan Allison, the 1970 and 1974 Commonwealth 1,500 metres silver medal winner and assistant manager of the British team at last month's European Championships, said: "This practice had certainly started when I was competing. The team even had a talk from a gynaecologist. But it has become more common now."

An American book, which is a report on a seminar held at the American Olympic training centre in California, cites a large amount of research showing that moderate exercise does not affect menstruation. When the cycle is disturbed by heavy training it soon returns to normal when intensive exercise stops.

Between 40 per cent and 60 per cent do not vary in performance but 15 per cent to 30 per cent had their worst performance in the menstrual or pre-menstrual phases.

The book also quotes evidence that increased strenuous athletic activity often leads to a delay in young competitors having their first menstruation.

This is also found in ballet dancers, who are highly motivated to maintain low body weights. In top-class gymnastics, it is often an advantage not to have attained puberty because of the improved strength-to-weight ratio.

Mrs Allison says that it is well-known in running that an increase in mileage can lead to periods being missed. *The Menstrual Cycle and Physical Activity* (Edited by Jacqueline Fahl and C. Harmon Brown, Edington Hook and Co., Tonbridge, Kent, £24.20).

Kits show the peaks of fertility

Women who struggle to become pregnant are having intercourse at the wrong time of the month, according to the manufacturers of two new fertility test kits.

With the help of the Discretest kit, which went on sale at chemists' at the weekend, women can predict accurately when fertile eggs will be released and will then have 24 hours during which fertility is at its peak.

A spokesman for the manufacturers claim this method of predicting fertility was much superior to classic temperature charts.

"Charts can indicate the release of an egg only after it has already happened, which is often too late", the spokesman said. He added that the new test worked by measuring the amount of a certain hormone — the level of which raised sharply shortly before ovulation — in the urine.

An estimated two million women are having difficulties conceiving, and two-thirds of all couples can take up to six months to conceive. The other third will take a year or longer.

The manufacturers of another home ovulation test, First Response, say the development of their kit, which will go on sale on October 13, was based on the latest monoclonal antibody technology.

Unlike existing home methods, which could be affected by movement, emotional upset or fat the First Response test was 100 per cent accurate when used by laboratory technicians and 99.5 per cent accurate when used by women at home.

But neither of these treatments will provide a cheap indicator of fertility. The Discretest costs £27.50 for seven tests and the First Response costs £24.90 for six tests.

IMAGES

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LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

Power-sharing pact rejected • Energy policy • Nuclear defence

Hattersley scoffs at idea of coalition with Alliance

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

Mr Roy Hattersley yesterday contemptuously rejected any possibility of the Labour Party entering into a coalition with the Alliance if the next general election produces a hung parliament.

Labour's deputy leader told a rally at Blackpool: "Coalition is wrong in principle. The Labour Party could not and would not enter into such an arrangement in any circumstances. No coalition with the Liberals. No coalition with the SDP. No coalition with the so-called Alliance."

His unequivocal statement was in response to the speech by Dr David Owen to the SDP conference in Harrogate when he said either Labour or the Conservatives would be forced to enter into coalition talks with the Alliance if, as he predicted, no party gained an overall Commons majority.

Mr Hattersley accused Dr Owen of "posturing" and said the idea of a coalition was a public relations device for the Alliance. By talking as if such a union were possible it fraudulently associated itself with the prospect of power.

"At the moment," Dr Owen could not even form a coalition with the Liberals," Mr Hattersley added mockingly.

Mr Neil Kinnock also insisted yesterday he would not rely on the Alliance for the purposes of a coalition or deal. If Labour did not have an overall majority "there would be no purpose, in terms of our programme and much more importantly in terms of the interest of the country, in

Deported priest calls for sanctions

The traditional church service launching Labour's conference week in Blackpool was marked by an appeal yesterday for sanctions against South Africa from a priest recently imprisoned and deported by the Pretoria Government.

In the congregation, Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, nodded vigorous agreement throughout the sermon in which Catholic priest Father Theo Kneifel condemned the "illegitimate and unjust government in South Africa".

Mr Kinnock, who was accompanied by his wife Glensy, read a lesson from St Matthew on the "Last Judgement".

But the applause of the congregation at Blackpool's North Shore Methodist Church was reserved for German-born Father Kneifel, 44, arrested under the state of emergency at his seminary near Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, and imprisoned for five days before being deported.

He told the congregation: "Apartheid is like a boil. It cannot be reformed, it must be abolished."

Father Kneifel called for "progressive sanctions to isolate that government so that Christians realize that you cannot collaborate with apartheid."

He protested that the package of sanctions so far agreed by the European Economic Community was "a slap in the face for South Africa's suffering poor."

Mr Kinnock's celebrated singing voice - as much at home with rugby songs as with hymns - was deployed with some gusto throughout the service.



Mr Tony Mulhearn (left) and Mr Derek Hutton, the Liverpool militants, at Blackpool for the opening of the Labour Party conference yesterday.

Kinnock rejects US nuclear cover

Continued from page 1

indeed would be pushing the US out of the UK."

Mr Kinnock said yesterday that if Mr Weinberger and Mr Perle were saying that the policy of a democratically elected Labour government with a mandate should be "subordinated by an external government" then they were undermining the very values Nato existed to defend.

He said that Mr Weinberger and Mr Perle were "wildly exaggerating" the effects of Britain becoming "yet another non-nuclear power within Nato".

Last night, a Conservative MP just back from a visit to Washington with a British parliamentary delegation claimed that Mr Weinberger's views were shared by the whole Washington establishment.

Mr Kenneth Hind, MP for Lancashire West, and his Commons colleagues had top-level meetings with officials in the White House, State and Defence departments and leading Congressmen who all spoke out against Mr Kinnock's plans.

"The message from Washington is loud and clear. They do not want to enter into our domestic politics, but what they are saying in private is what Mr Weinberger is saying in public."

"What Mr Weinberger is saying is exactly what the White House said to the Conservative MPs on our delegation, what the State Department said and what the Home Affairs Committee of Congress said. I have never seen such strong uniformity on one single point."

Mr Hind said the Americans believed if a Labour government closed US

nuclear bases other European countries would follow, resulting in Washington withdrawing American troops from Europe.

● MOSCOW: Pravda, the official Communist Party paper, yesterday praised the stance on the defence issue taken at the conferences of the British Liberal and Social Democratic parties (Christopher Walker writes).

"The political debates at both forums centred on a joint report on defence and security, which had been prepared by the leaders of the two parties. As seen by them it should form the basis of the alliance's foreign policy platform at the forthcoming parliamentary elections", Pravda's London correspondent, Arkady Maslennikov, reported.

"It should be said that the report contains quite a few sensible judgements. They reflect a shift in the thinking of politicians and broad public circles in Britain, which has been taking place under the impact of peace initiatives by the Soviet Union and in view of the growing nuclear threat."

"On the whole," the paper concluded, "the two conferences have shown once again that support for nuclear disarmament and for broader peaceful co-operation between East and West is mounting in the British Isles."

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EEC acts to break foreign beer ban

Munich's legendary Oktoberfest, in full, boozey roar since last Saturday (it always begins in September), may never be the same again if Brussels officials have their way.

The world's greatest beer-drinking festival has already jarred the hard men by offering this year, for the first time, thin non-alcoholic brews.

That move by the eight big Bavarian brewers whose huge beer pavilions cover Munich's Theresienwiese, (Theresa's Meadow) for two weeks every year, was "encouraged" by the city council to help reduce drink-drive and other usual Oktoberfest-related accidents.

But most of the one million hearties who drank 900,000 litres of beer at the weekend alone to give the festival another record opening (it is also always a record), and the total of more than seven million visitors expected by the time the taps are turned off, can accept that as a good thing, even if only for others.

What they are finding more difficult to swallow is the dreadful possibility that the non-German EEC commissioners in Brussels will have

their dastardly way in forcing foreign "chemical" beers into West Germany, and as far south as Munich.

The Germans, who put away 145.8 litres of beer per head last year, keeping them at the top of the European

quaffers league, drink pure beer - by law. This is the Reinheitsgebot (purity commandment), drawn up by Duke Wilhelm of Bavaria in 1516 which rules that only hops, malt, yeast and water are used. So far, the law has kept "adulterated" foreign beers containing preservatives and other chemicals out.

But that situation will come to a halt by the end of this year if the European Court in Luxembourg accepts the advice of a Briton, Sir Gordon Slynn, the court's attorney general. He said last week that West Germany's ban on imports of foreign beers violated the Treaty of Rome.

But Herr Ulrich Opherk, for the German Brewers' Federation in Bonn, admitted: "German beer drinkers are not suddenly going to switch to foreign brews containing chemicals."

British brewers keep quiet about ingredients

In Britain the Brewers Society claims that beer is made in compliance with the most stringent legal standards in the world, but there is no requirement for beers or lagers to carry lists of ingredients on their labels (Robin Young writes).

This may be good for the peace of mind of drinkers who might feel queasy if they knew they were drinking, among other things, colorants, anti-oxidants, preservatives and sweeteners in a liquid that may also have been treated with dried seaweed, extract of fish bladders, crushed shells of minute sea creatures, and topped up with a dollop of calcium sulphate, a little extra vitamin C, and a gassy blast of carbon dioxide.

There is only three British beers that would be acceptable at present in West Germany: Worthington White Shield, Guinness and a new Natural Lager launched recently by the Tadcaster brewers, Samuel Smith, which contains nothing but English malted barley, German hops, Bavarian culture yeast and water.

"We know such a process is more demanding and expensive than most alternative practices", Samuel Smith's said.

Law-abiding Bath

A quiet night in the West's sin city

By Robin Young

Is Bath the sin city of the West? Can one walk its streets in safety?

When Dr Graham Davis, a lecturer in social history at Bath College, disclosed that in the eighteenth century Bath had been overflowing with brothels, gambling and crimes of violence, a Mr Pearce wrote in *The Times* to complain that things were little changed today.

Mr Pearce said that while walking within yards of their hotel in Queen Square, his family had been surrounded by drunken youths hurling abuse and pushing them off the pavement.

In the city centre, he claimed, gangs of youths blocked the thoroughfares behaving in a frightening manner. Formidable bouncers guarded the discos, but there

was not a policeman in sight and the city seemed to have surrendered to the "toughs".

On Saturday afternoon, the city looked rather different. Jugglers performed with burning torches outside the Pump Rooms, people were feeding the pigeons and the only noise came from a traffic jam in Queen Street. Early that evening, the only people in Queen Square were American tourists quietly enjoying pre-prandial strolls.

A receptionist at the Francis Hotel in Queen Square was quite enraged at the suggestion that there might be rowdiness round the corner. "We never have the slightest trouble here," she said. "I walk home alone after 11 every night and I have never felt the slightest bit nervous."

The largest group of people visible were queuing patiently to see Sir John Mills in the National Theatre production of *The Passion at the Bijou Theatre Royal*.

Outside Mole's and Nero's, the discotheques in George Street, the bouncers were polite and friendly. At Chemies nightclub, youngsters were enjoying themselves but none seemed to be misbehaving. At the end of the night the police, who had had four officers on duty in the city centre, said there had been no incidents.

Perhaps the whole thing was simply got up to put another plug in for Bath, or perhaps the terrified visitor, who came from the rival tourist attraction of Harrogate in Yorkshire, was trying to give his own home town a boost.

Firms get extortion warnings

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs
Correspondent

Warnings about extortion against companies have been given by Control Risks, an international security and risk assessment firm.

The latest caution to the 380 companies who subscribe to Control Risks' service comes after an increase in extortion in Japan.

Crimes such as blackmail, kidnapping and threats to poison companies' products are rising.

In the past six years Control Risks has had knowledge of 270 cases internationally, a quarter of them in Britain, and has helped companies in some of the more difficult ones.

Such incidents are now more prevalent, according to Mr Christopher Grose, a Control Risks official.

One multinational company alone has suffered five extortion incidents in two years.

Details of the threat posed to companies by extortion came last week at a joint seminar of the British Association and the Society of Chemical Industry, when Mr Grose said that cases that reach the public were only the "tip of the iceberg".

The managing director of a company making health products was faced with a threat to poison one of its main brand names unless £170,000 was paid.

A parcel delivered to the hotel where the director had been told to await further contact was found to contain a CB radio and instructions to board a certain train.

He was told that 30 minutes into the journey he would receive a radio message to throw the money out of the window. But the "drop" was not made.

In another case Control Risks' clients had been told money would be collected underwater by a frogman in a harbour.

Cash fact fight as demand q

Soft drink gas could save lives

New light on volcanic i

مكازم الأخبار

Acid rain: 1

Cash factor influences fight as politicians demand quick answers

Scientists know enough about acid rain to persuade the Government to spend £600 million on curbing its export from Britain. But as Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent, reports in the first of four articles, many of its secrets have still to be unlocked.

There are only three new things about acid rain. One is its name, another its emergence on to the political stage and the third the amount of research being devoted to it. Acid rain has been created for as long as coal and oil have been burnt in large amounts to make things move and to keep people warm.

Acid rain would have dominated environmental politics this year, but for the Chernobyl disaster in the Soviet Union. Politicians want fast answers to the questions that acid rain poses. But the harder the scientists dig into it, the more they realize that there are no simple solutions.

Dr John Bowman, secretary of the Natural Environment Research Council, said: "Cutting emissions by a certain amount will not necessarily have an equivalent effect when it comes to water or vegetation. The relationship is not necessarily a linear one." He meant that halving what

goes up will not necessarily halve what comes down. Dr Michael Unsworth, head of a Scottish research unit of the Natural Environment Research Council, called it "very

Sulphur dioxide, the gas at the centre of the acid rain argument, is produced naturally from volcanoes and from rotting vegetable matter in swamps and even on compost heaps. Burning of coal and oil has almost doubled the amount of the gas in the atmosphere over Britain.

complicated and exciting atmospheric chemistry".

The acid rain process begins when things are burnt on the ground, especially if the things are naturally occurring fuels such as coal, oil and wood. The burning gives off gases which drift skywards.

Once there they can react with the moisture trapped in the clouds. The descent of the water leads to what many environmental campaigners

see as the menacing patter of acid rain. Clearly it cannot be new. It must have been produced when steam trains snorted across the countryside and housemaids lit fires in bedrooms.

Historic buildings have suffered for years from the cruel weathering that strips noses and beards from statues.

The Parthenon in Athens is thought to have suffered more from pollution in the past 30 years than it did in the previous 2,000.

Nobody doubts that the production of acid rain can be curbed. But questions about the speed and extent of the necessary controls are dominated by their immense cost and by doubts about their value.

There is no point in spending millions to stop the damage supposedly caused by acid rain if later research shows it to be caused by something else.

Tomorrow: Leaks, lupins and clover



Miss Rebecca Bruce, aged 20 (left), Miss Frances Crippwell, aged 27 (centre), and Miss Franwyn Jacka, aged 26, got a taste of the desert at Bewdley Safari Park, Hereford and Worcester, at the weekend before setting off on a 1,000-mile sponsored camel trek across the central Sahara. Miss Crippwell was awarded a Winston Churchill Traveling Fellowship to lead the expedition, which will raise money for a Wilderness Trust retreat centre in Shropshire.

MP seeks Aids check on visitors

A former Conservative health minister warned the Government, yesterday, of "horrendous prospects" unless immediate screening for Aids is introduced for all visitors to Britain from high risk areas, particularly certain African countries.

Sir Gerard Vaughan, Conservative MP for Reading East, an eminent physician, and chairman of the trustees

of the United Kingdom Aids Foundation, said: "We are crazy not to do so."

"The Government must take the simple and obvious steps to protect its people and that means screening everybody coming here, for a start, from Tanzania, Zambia and Uganda."

"And to suggest that those like me, who cry out for action, are alarmists borders

on the criminal." Sir Gerard has written to Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, demanding urgent action and stating: "We have to stop this terrible, incurable disease spreading in any way we can. We owe it to many innocent people, including children."

"If there was an outbreak of cholera and typhoid there would be no hesitation."

Change in mental handicap care urged

By Jill Sherman

Community services can inhibit community life, according to a report out today, which calls for a radical reappraisal of mental handicap services.

The report, from the Campaign for People with Mental Handicaps, is based on a study carried out in the United States.

It gives a warning that planners often fall into the trap of thinking that mentally handicapped people need the constant support of special services.

Its author, Alison Wertheimer, the campaign director, says planners should stop putting up special buildings which segregate the mentally handicapped from community life.

Planners should be aware that sometimes people in the community were more useful than services to those with mental handicaps.

The report says: "Much thinking and planning about how best to meet the needs of people with mental handicaps is dominated by discussions about services and somewhere along the line the people themselves can easily get lost."

Images of possibility (CMH publications, 5 Kennings Comberton, Cambridgeshire, £1.75).

Soft drink gas could save lives

By a Staff Reporter

A gas cylinder normally used to put the fizz into soft drinks could save the lives of miners, industrial workers and lone yachtsmen.

A cylinder of oxygen fitted to a new lightweight breathing bag could provide a 30-minute supply of air to victims of smoke, fumes or poisonous gas. That could just be enough to get them to fresh air and safety.

In the case of mining and industrial accidents, which often involve air poisoning, the best precaution is to provide every man with his own breathing apparatus. Conventional equipment, however, resembles that used by skin divers. It is too heavy, cumbersome and expensive.

Soft drinks cylinders, however, weigh barely a pound as they are stamped out of a single thin disc of metal. They are extremely strong, safe and leak proof, ideal portable equipment breathing apparatus down mines.

In an emergency, a miner pulls a mouthpiece from a safety box at his side and that activates the oxygen bottle and inflates a plastic bag. As he breathes, poisonous carbon dioxide is extracted to keep the air sweet in the bag until the oxygen cylinder gives out.

Two companies are developing the bags, and one, the Draeger Safety Group, of Blyth, Northumberland, will start production in the next few months.

Another fresh application for the cylinder is in a compact, self-inflating liferaft now in production by Sea Sure Safety and Survival, of Aldershot. Self-inflating rafts are usually large, heavy and expensive.

The Jon Buoy, however, is so compact and lightweight that it can be carried by the smallest yacht and it not only provides support for the victim, it also insulates him against the cold. The victim can even be winched up by a special lifting ring if he is too weak to move when rescued.

Police sue over car accident

By Rodney Cowton

Transport Correspondent

The West Midlands branch of the Police Federation is bringing a legal action against the West Midlands Police Authority because of an accident in an Austin Metro car in which one of its members was injured.

There has been concern about a number of accidents involving Metros which were suspected of having been caused by petrol spilling on the road leading to the driver losing control of the vehicle.

In June the Northumbrian police drew the attention of the Department of Transport to six accidents involving civilians where it appeared that petrol had spilled from a newly filled tank as the car drove on a fast left-hand bend.

A spokesman for the West Midlands branch of the federation said it was making a claim after an accident in August last year in which a police sergeant based at Solihull was injured when he appeared to lose control of a Metro.

Another source said there were about five police cases of a similar nature pending, and he was aware of others involving civilians.

The Department of Transport said its engineers had examined the Metro and had been unable to induce any spillage where the cap on the petrol tank was properly fitted. Where they had deliberately induced spillage, that had not caused any problem.

The Royal Automobile Club and the Automobile Association said they had no knowledge of any legal actions based on accidents which might have been caused by petrol spillage from the Metro. The RAC also said it was examining the Metro.

A spokesman for Austin Rover said that with the filler cap properly fitted there was no possibility of spillage. Problems only seemed to arise where a non-standard cap was used.

Science report

New light on eruption of volcanic islands

By Keith Hindley

An Israeli geophysicist, working in the United States, has suggested a theory that may explain the pattern of secondary activity in volcanic islands.

The long chain of Hawaiian islands is a set of five, mile-high volcanoes that have risen, one after the other, from the Pacific sea floor.

They all erupt once, pause and then erupt again in turn — a true natural assembly line.

The general explanation for these periodic outpourings is that the sea floor there is moving slowly north-westwards over a hot spot, an intense source of heat from deep within the earth's mantle.

As molten rock builds up above the hot spot, the sea floor is breached and a new volcano begins to build towards the surface of the sea.

Eventually, the cone matures into an island and passes the danger zone. It goes cold and begins to weather away.

So much is widely accepted. But why is it, after three-quarters of a million years of extinction and after moving 115 miles from the original source of magma, each volcano suddenly begins erupting again?

The new phase is less violent than the first and

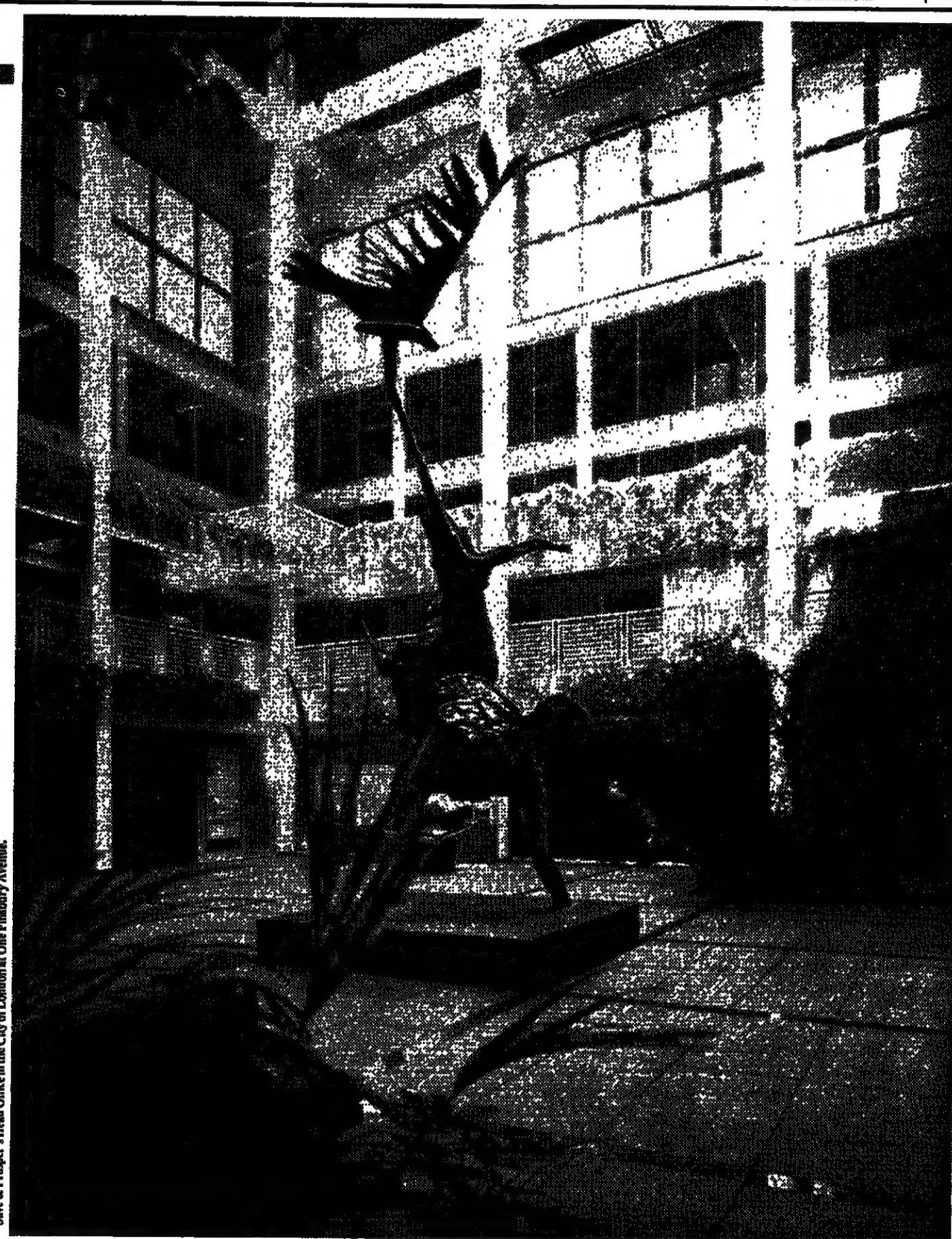
occurs near the base of the original volcanic cone.

The mystery may have been solved at last by the geophysicist, Uri S. Ben-Zion, of the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory in Palisades, New York. At a recent meeting of the American Geophysical Union in Baltimore he described seismic studies that showed a vast raft of horizontal lava beds beneath the line of volcanoes, starting where the violent primary activity begins to quiet.

His theory is that magma actually flows for longer but remains trapped.

When a volcano forms, as lava begins to flow, it rapidly gains weight that is spread widely over the ocean plate below. Eventually it becomes heavy enough to stop the flow — like a thumb on a fizzy lemonade bottle — forcing the magma to flow outwards forming beds, or sills, up to 2½ miles thick and 120 miles across.

If this notion is correct then much larger quantities of lava must be produced than anyone has so far imagined and the hot spot itself must be much bigger, perhaps 180 miles long by 120 miles across.



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30 killed in fresh Beirut clashes

Beirut (Reuters) — Fresh fighting was reported on Beirut's "Green Line" battlefront yesterday after a clash between rival forces in Christian east Beirut on Saturday in which at least 30 people were killed.

The Christian Voice of Lebanon radio said unidentified gunmen launched an assault from mainly-Muslim west Beirut under cover of artillery fire but were repulsed by soldiers manning the sectarian divide.

Official confirmation was not immediately available and there were no reports of casualties in the latest fighting.

"Ambulances are there and we heard on our walkie-talkies there was trouble," one militiaman at a roadblock said.

The radio said gunmen tried to penetrate the no-man's land strip at about 1 pm after shells had hit the Christian districts of Masurih, Mukalesh and Beit Mery.

Residents said earlier that a dozen shells had slammed into another Christian suburb, Ashrafieh, a key hilltop objective in the battle between Christian forces.

A Christian Lebanese forces militia spokesman said that at least 30 people, including civilians, had been killed and many more wounded in Saturday's fighting which had involved tanks, recoilless rifles and rocket-propelled grenades.

Streets littered with rubble and burned-out cars were deserted yesterday and militiamen manned check-



Three fighters from the forces of Samir Geagea protecting their office in the Beirut Christian quarter of Karantina.

points thrown up around the battle zone.

The spokesman said the Lebanese Forces chief, Mr Samir Geagea, was firmly in control despite what he said was a rebel Christian plot to take over the area with help from the left and from Muslims.

The rebels had thrust across

the Green Line from Muslim west Beirut. Ashrafieh was some 1,000 yards from the divide and the rebels had tried to seize a radio station, he said.

"They were to signal their west Beirut allies to link up with them but they failed. We took about 20 prisoners."

It was the worst clash in east

Beirut since a bloody upheaval in the Lebanese Forces eight months ago and the first serious flare-up since Christian and Muslim ministers met early this month to agree on a truce between the warring militias.

Meanwhile, Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon, Brigadier Ghazi Kanaan, de-

nied a Lebanese Forces charge that he had directed an onslaught on east Beirut from the west.

He told the independent *An-Nahar* that the battle between supporters of Geagea and rebels led by the militia's previous commander, Mr Elie Hobeika, was "an internal affair".

Mafia in Italian medicines scandal

From Peter Nichols Rome

A massive scandal involving Mafia and Camorra activities in the Italian national health service has been revealed by Signor Carlo Donat-Cattin, the new Minister of Health.

He said in Turin on Saturday that inquiries, which were still proceeding, had revealed large scale fraud in three southern regions.

Preliminary figures indicated that in Campania, where the Camorra dominates organized crime, the health service was defrauded last year of about 50,000 million lire (\$45 million). In the first three months of this year almost half that sum had already been reached.

In Sicily, the home ground of the Mafia, the health service was defrauded of about 100,000 million lire over the past three years, almost half of it in 1985.

The Minister gave no figures for Calabria, which has grave problems of organized crime similar to the Mafia, but it is understood that the figure is less than that for Sicily.

Investigators discovered substantial differences between the value of sales of medicines declared by pharmaceutical companies and the amounts stated to have been spent by local authorities.

Brussels reviews emergency rules on radiation levels

From Richard Owen, Brussels

As the Russians prepare to restart the Chernobyl nuclear plant, the EEC is this week reconsidering the strict emergency regulations on radiation levels in foodstuffs which it imposed after the accident.

The provisional EEC agreement on radiation levels expires tomorrow and nuclear experts from the Twelve meet today in an attempt to reach a last-minute accord on whether the emergency regulations should be extended or replaced with less strict criteria.

Countries which rely heavily on nuclear power for their electricity supplies, such as France, argued at an unsuccessful meeting of experts on Friday that the rules imposed by the EEC in May were alarmist and can now be relaxed. This view is to some extent reinforced by Soviet assurances over the effectiveness of measures taken at the Chernobyl plant since April.

Other member states, how-

ever, take a far more sceptical view of nuclear safety and argue that the radiation levels agreed by the EEC were a necessary response to public alarm and should be maintained at least until next year.

At the time of the accident the EEC prohibited food imports into the EEC from Eastern Europe and established norms for maximum permissible radiation levels in foodstuffs. Some EEC states, however, protested that the measures were being used to impede trade in fruit and vegetables between EEC states rather than EEC trade with the Soviet bloc.

A possible compromise formula has been put forward by Euratom, the EEC's atomic agency. It has suggested that the present post-Chernobyl system of detailed radiation levels for specific foodstuffs could be replaced with annual monitoring based on agreed criteria for safe radiation levels for human consumption.

Wildlife group agrees to differ

Rome — The 25th anniversary conference of the World Wildlife Fund, chaired by the Duke of Edinburgh, has ended in Assisi with an agreement to differ on the problem of nuclear energy (Peter Nichols writes).

Some national groups came out against the use of nuclear

energy, but at the international level the Fund managed to stay outside the debate.

The Duke complained that the Italian press was attaching too much significance to the nuclear energy debate when the conference had other important issues to discuss.

SLA chief certain of border security

From Ian Murray, Metulla, Upper Galilee

General Antoine Lahad yesterday reassured the world that the South Lebanon Army (SLA) he commands, with full-scale Israeli support, was capable of maintaining security in the buffer zone along the border indefinitely, despite the growing number of attacks by the Hezbollah fundamentalist militia.

While he was holding his news conference here two more French soldiers serving with the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (Unifil) were injured by a roadside bomb in south Lebanon, giving apparent substance to his claim that the UN force was now being drawn into the violence of the region as nothing more than another armed unit.

General Lahad denied stories that have appeared in the Israeli press that four of his positions had been overrun by the Shia militia in the past month. Parts of some positions had been captured, he admitted, but all had been retaken.

Not only were his men capable of holding all their present outposts, but he was considering increasing the number of manned positions protecting the SLA zone.

"Despite some heavy casualties suffered by my men, militarily speaking the opera-



General Lahad: claims he can repulse all attacks.

tions against us were not successful," he said.

He would not reveal how large the SLA was beyond saying confidently: "It is big enough to repulse all attacks."

Although he relied on Israel for support — just as the Hezbollah and Amal militias relied on Syria and Iran — he said he had not needed any help from Israeli forces to repel the attacks against his positions.

As far as last week's United Nations Security Council resolution was concerned, which called for Israeli and SLA withdrawal from the zone, the General was quietly dismissive.

The UN troops were not a fighting force, he said, and if they were deployed up to the border they would be unable to prevent infiltration into Israel.

The attacks against UN soldiers were being directed by Syria and Iran, he said, and had nothing to do with the SLA or Israel. If the UN troops were deployed along the border this would move the fighting closer to Israel.

But he did not want to see the UN pull its troops out simply because they were under terrorist attack. This would give a victory to terrorism and win popular support for it in south Lebanon, he said. If the UN wanted to pull its troops out this would have to be for political and not terrorist considerations.

He admitted that attacks against his men had been growing, with the militia opposing them armed with more sophisticated weapons in the hands of determined and fanatical men.

For his own part, although he needed Israeli help, he remained a loyal Lebanese citizen, he said. Just as De Gaulle worked with British support for France in the last war, so he was working with Israeli support for Lebanon.

Shamir's way to peace

Cairo, (Reuters) — The Israeli Foreign Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, soon to be Prime Minister, said in a rare interview with an Egyptian paper that he did not believe an international peace conference was the best way to solve the Middle East crisis. He said in the interview, conducted in New York by the semi-official *al-Ahram* newspaper and appearing in yesterday's editions, that he believed bilateral talks were the only way.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, with whom Mr Shamir swaps position under a power-sharing agreement next month, and President Mubarak of Egypt, agreed in principle at a summit this month to set up a committee to prepare for an international conference.

Hitchcock's cut scene rediscovered

Los Angeles — Some fascinating home movies showing Alfred Hitchcock playing with his young daughter in the days when he lived in England in the 1930s, plus the key scene of his 1959 picture *Topaz* that was cut from the film, have been unearthed in a garage at the director's home (Ivor Davis writes).

Mr Richard Franklin, a Melbourne film director and a student of Hitchcock films, who made the first sequel to *Psycho*, came across the rare home movies and the crucial scene while sifting through boxes of papers and personal belongings of the director who died in 1980. The films had been sent to the garage when Hitchcock's film office at Universal Studios closed.

"The home movies show a side of the director that his various biographers have never existed," Mr Franklin noted. But he said his greatest find was the scene from *Topaz*, one of the director's least successful films.

Belgian funds plea to keep Magritte's art

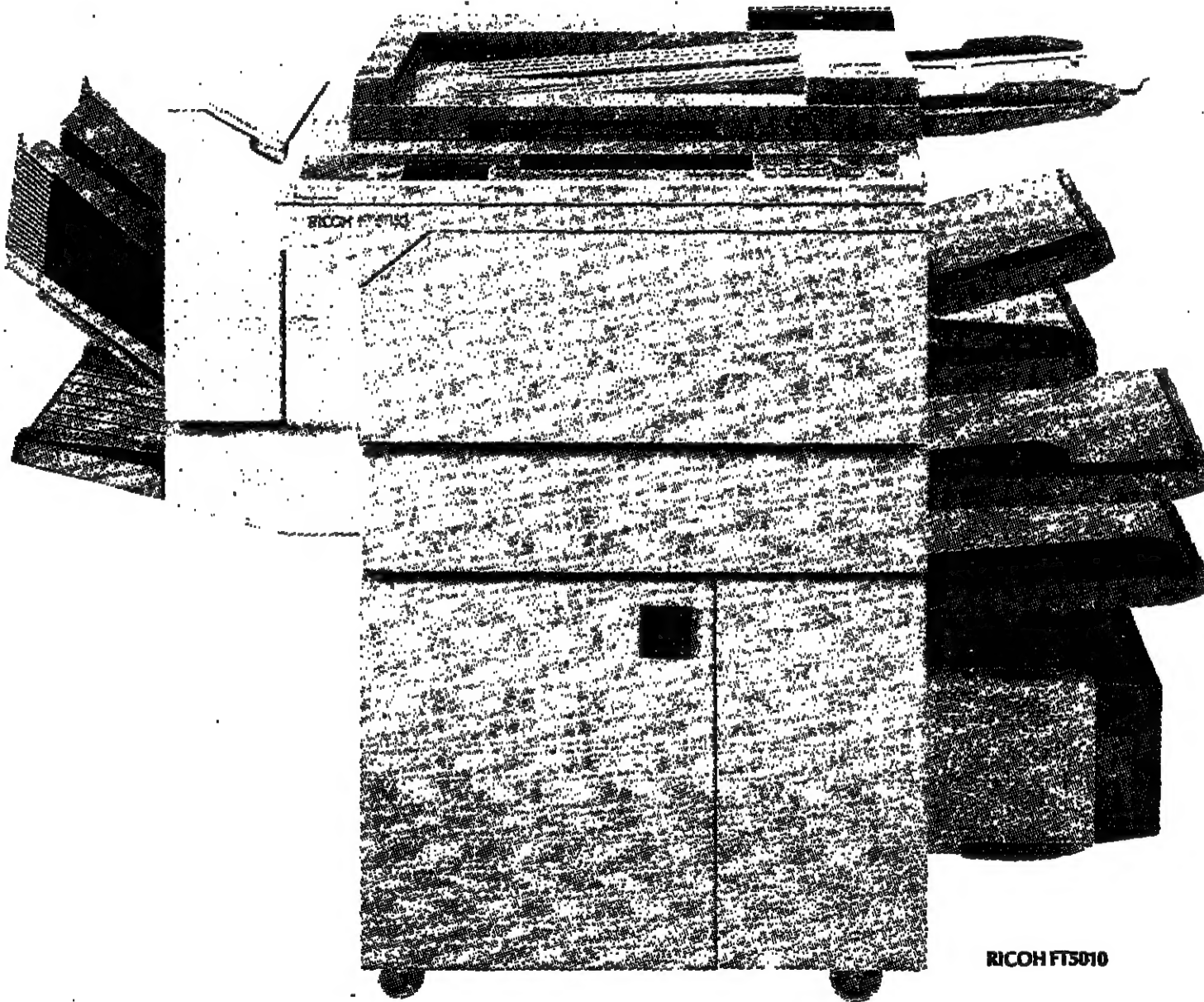
Brussels — The Belgian Government hopes to raise more than £1.5 million in an initial drive to save the works of the celebrated Belgian surrealist painter René Magritte for the nation, officials said yesterday (Richard Owen writes).

Mr Philippe Montfis, Minister for Belgium's French-speaking community, said the funds available to Brussels' acclaimed art museums for the purchase of works of art were "miserable", and a large part of the Magritte heritage could leave Belgium.

Despite its rich artistic history, Belgium has produced relatively few leading figures in the 20th century arts, and the French-speaking and Flemish communities have set up Magritte funds, with the support of Mr Mark Eyskens, the Finance Minister.

Magritte died in Brussels nearly 20 years ago, aged 69. His widow, Madame Georgette Berger, survived him until February this year.

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Dengists win a new code of behaviour for China's billion

From Robert Gries, Peking

The Chinese Communist Party yesterday announced the adoption of a new code of behaviour for China's one billion citizens at the conclusion of its annual plenary session.

The official Radio Peking announced that the 210-member Central Committee of the party, which met during the past few days in Peking's Great Hall of the People, had passed a resolution on "the guiding principles of the construction of socialist spiritual civilization".

The new code of behaviour

China is to abandon a programme to simplify more than 850 written characters, because of confusion surrounding their use (AFP reports from Peking). The decision will not affect a further 2,400 characters simplified in 1964.

is an attempt by Dengists to replace Maoist ideology with principles based on a market-oriented economy, according to Western diplomats.

That attempt was expected to meet stiff resistance from conservatives within the party. A new code of behaviour and ethics has been viewed by some observers here as the vitally needed ideological consolidation of the Dengist reforms. It could also help rebuild the party's prestige, which has been battered by abuses of power and economic crimes associated with the open door policy.

"Since 1979, when China began its economic reform

and opening to the outside world, people's ideological concepts have changed," the official party newspaper, *People's Daily*, said.

Free press: Chinese officials are drafting laws that will ensure press freedom with "socialist characteristics" in the People's Republic.

Mr Sun Yipai, the deputy director of the Institute of Journalism under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said at the weekend that drafting of the laws, begun about two years ago, was progressing well.

After undergoing extensive review, the laws are expected to be submitted to the National People's Congress, China's Parliament, for final approval in 1988.

The concept of press freedom in China would have been unthinkable five years ago. But in the current period of cultural liberalization, which has witnessed a flowering of the Chinese cinema, arts and letters, the move to codify the rights and responsibilities of Chinese journalists has met with widespread approval.

"The situation now is much better than before, but I believe the press can be even more open."

But the concept of press freedom in China is not the same as that in the West. Recently, a deputy minister in the Government's Propaganda Department said that newspaper editors, rather than the Communist Party, should have the final say, so that they can make "better propaganda".



General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, left, waving to well-wishers on his arrival at Peking airport yesterday, where he was greeted by the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr Wu Xueqian, right.

General Jaruzelski's unofficial visit could herald closer relations between China and the Soviet Union's East European allies (Robert Gries writes).

He is the first East European leader, with the exception of President Ceausescu

of Romania, to visit China since Peking and Moscow split over ideological and foreign policy differences in the early 1960s, and is the first Polish leader to visit China since 1959.

He had talks with Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Premier, and is expected to be in Peking for three days, after having visited Mongolia and North Korea.

The visit was hastily arranged to take place before an official visit to China next

month by Mr Erich Honecker, the East German leader.

The Chinese Communist Party has formal ties with its counterparts in Romania and Yugoslavia.

In recent years economic and political contacts have been resumed between China and Poland, East Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria — contacts that reportedly have Moscow's tacit approval.

Pakistan toughens up security at airports

Karachi (AFP) — Pakistan has initiated tough measures to tighten security at chief airports after the hijacking of a Pan Am jumbo jet on September 5, official sources said yesterday.

X-ray machines are being installed here and at Islamabad airports to check baggage, and more highly trained security personnel have been brought in.

Twenty-two people died and scores were wounded

when four Arab hijackers opened fire on the passengers. Since the hijacking, senior officials of the Interior Ministry and the Civil Aviation Department have been holding regular security meetings.

The airport perimeter here, cleared of undergrowth, has been fenced with barbed wire and is being patrolled by armed squads. Eighteen watchtowers have been erected and equipped with searchlights.

Britain answers Haiti's request for food aid

By Nicholas Beeston

The initial consignment of a £250,000 British food package will arrive in Haiti on Saturday in one of the first responses to the country's call for aid since the overthrow of President Jean-Claude Duvalier in February.

The food relief, comprising vegetable oil from Singapore, kidney beans from Canada and maize from the United States, is expected to feed 20,000 people in the next year.

The package, paid for by the British Government after an appeal from Haiti two months ago, was organized by British Care, part of an international relief agency based in Paris.

British Care said that Haiti was one of the five poorest nations in the world and that its 5.6 million people, who earn an average of less than \$200 (£136) a year, were in desperate need of more food.

Billy Graham in France

Evangelist changes mockery to respect

From Diana Geddes, Paris

When Billy Graham asked the religious editor of *Le Monde* what he would do if he were going on a Protestant evangelistic crusade to Catholic France, the journalist replied: "I would turn right round and go back home. It's a hopeless task."

On Saturday night, the last of Billy Graham's eight-day mission in France, 18,500 people flocked to the newly-built Bercy sports stadium in Paris to hear the American evangelist preach. Two thousand watched on a video screen in an overflow room in the stadium and one thousand more had to be turned away.

In all, more than 100,000 came to Bercy to see Billy Graham in person, while another 300,000 watched him on enormous screens in 33 other towns.

Seven per cent "came forward" to take Jesus into their hearts and restart their lives — almost twice as many as in normal missions in the United States.

By all accounts, this latest crusade to France — the first for 23 years — has been a success. Yet the augurs were by no means good. A Gallup poll taken just before Billy Graham arrived showed that only 15 per cent of the population had heard of him.

The French press was extremely sceptical before the crusade began. It condemned

the 7 million franc (£700,000) cost of the mission and spoke with horror of expecting to see a slick, Bible-thumping, Southern preacher, promising instant salvation, propped up by showbiz razzmatazz, screaming loudspeakers, and massed choirs, all helping to hypnotize the crowds to a fervour which had little to do with religion.

But as the week progressed and the journalists had a chance to see how the predominantly poor and ill-educated audience was being moved not by the razzmatazz, which was not much in evidence, but by Billy Graham's simplicity and sincerity, the mocking tone became gentler and mixed with a certain respect and admiration.

"It's real Sunday School stuff, isn't it?" a Protestant pastor from Le Havre said with a smile. "I'd never be able to touch a lot of these people here, yet he does."

Mr Bob Evans, former head of the Greater Europe Bible Mission who has lived in France for the past 40 years, commented: "The response is a surprise to us all. There's such heavy secularism in France; it's not fashionable to be religious here. But Billy Graham has obviously struck a vein of gold somewhere. He's shown that underneath it all people are longing for something else."

Ceausescu pushes for new capital

From Dossa Trevisan, Belgrade

Romania may soon have a new capital. President Ceausescu has announced that it is intended to move the capital from Bucharest to Tirgoviste, the medieval capital of the Wallachian state, some 50 miles north-west of the present capital.

The final decision, President Ceausescu said, has to be taken by the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party but there seems no doubt that the President is intent on carrying out his long cherished plan to move the capital to the medieval centre of the state and culture.

The town now has a population of some 90,000 but 300 years ago it was the capital of Wallachia.

It was also the seat of the Duke Mircea the Great, whose anniversary was celebrated in Romania with a hitherto unmatched pomp.

Obviously Mr Ceausescu wishes to establish the continuity of the Romanian state from the Middle Ages to the present.

In a speech to mark the anniversary of the Duke's installation as ruler of Wallachia, President Ceausescu told the people of Tirgoviste that if they worked hard their demand to move the capital to their city would be crowned with success.

According to reports from Romania, an international airport is already being built there and preparations are being made to build a railway line connecting the city with the present capital.

President Ceausescu said the complete modernization of the small medieval town would be carried out in the course of the next three or four years.

Rebels put terms for a ceasefire

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Communist rebels in the Philippines are to propose a temporary nationwide ceasefire of 30 days or longer but with rigid safeguards, including committees to monitor the agreement.

A statement signed by the two negotiators of the left-wing National Democratic Front (NDF), Mr Satur Ocampo and Mr Antonio Zume, rejected as "dangerous" the Government's unconditional ceasefire offer.

Instead they proposed the immediate formation of a national committee "to monitor and supervise the ceasefire and to arbitrate all disputes that may arise from any violation".

Similar committees on a regional and provincial level comprised of people "mutually accepted for probity, impartiality and personal integrity" would ensure both sides strictly observed the ceasefire terms, they said.

The plan was a "positive" development, the Executive Secretary, Mr Joker Arroyo said. "A ceasefire is always welcome. Anything that saves lives is welcome."

● ZAMBOANGA: Muslim militants who kidnapped a Swiss tourist, Mr Hans Kunzli, and are believed to be holding him on Jolo island, 600 miles south of Manila, have hardened their demands two days before a military-imposed deadline for his release, the Philippine military said yesterday (AP reports).

The military said the prospects that the hostage would be released soon dimmed because the militants had reverted to their original demand for a ransom of \$100,000 (£70,420).

Mr Kunzli, in letter, asked for the ransom to be paid.

World Bridge

British women third behind US winners

From A Bridge Correspondent, Miami Beach

After the penultimate session of the women's world pairs championship Jacqui Mitchell and Annalyn Kears of New York, led by two boards with the Britons Sally Horton and Sandra Landy in fifth place, four-and-a-half boards behind.

In the final session the British women scored 61 per cent and might well have moved into second place but for a miracle session by two 21-year-old Danes who scored 66.4 to move from sixth to the silver medal position.

Horton and Landy took the bronze for the second successive time — Biarritz in 1982 was the previous occasion — and Mitchell and Kears needed no more than an average final session to clinch the title with something in hand.

Mitchell has won three previous world titles, the women's team olympiad and the Venice Trophy (the world's inter-zonal women's teams championship). For Kears this is a first time. As a Federal Circuit Court of Appeals judge she has little time for tournament bridge.

There were dramatic turn-arounds in the third and fourth sessions of the open pairs world championship. In the third session Australians Paul Marston and Ste-

phen Burgess rocketed into top place with a 64 per cent session, two boards clear of the Americans Eril Rodwell and Jeff Meckstroth.

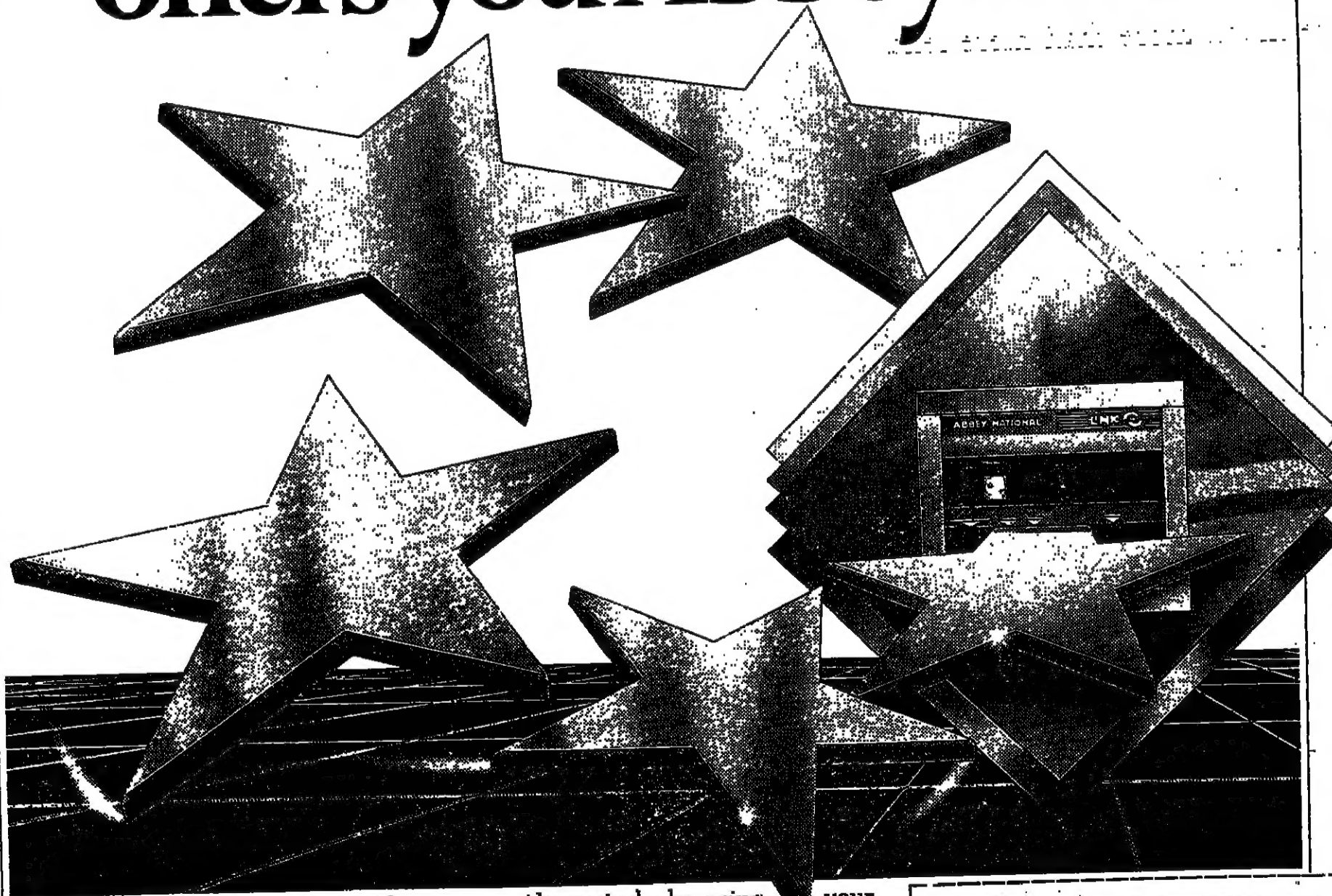
But in the fourth and penultimate session the Australians scored below average to drop into third while Meckstroth and Rodwell moved into first place almost four boards clear of the second-placed Americans Chris Compton and Ed Wold.

The final places are: 1. Meckstroth and Rodwell 3847; 2. Heinrich Berger and Wolfgang Mehl (Austria) 3595; 3. Burgess and Marston 3572; 4. Curtis Compton and Ed Wold (USA) 3558; 5. Gabriel Chagas and Marcelo Branco (Brazil) 3526; 6. Andre Mulder and Max Rebattu (Netherlands) 3513; 43. Glyn Liggins and Andy Robson (Great Britain) 3041.

The USA, who took gold in all four events, automatically retain the Charles Solomon Cup awarded to the country with the best overall performance.

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SPECTRUM

The boom that rattled the roof



The price of houses is soaring on the wings of cheap credit in the biggest sellers' market since the

1970s. But behind the boom *The Times* has found hardship, questionable lending policies, unprecedented mortgage arrears and a widening north-south gap. We open a three-part series with a look at causes and effects; we meet a man who grew rich simply by buying and selling; and we ask: just how much will they let you borrow? Should lending be regulated?

Part One: An upwardly-mobile market

In the summer of 1985, a family moved out of a five-bedroom house in Walton-on-Thames, at the heart of the Surrey commuter belt. The selling price: £265,000. A year later, the same house came on to the market again. The selling price: about £335,000. Over the same 12-month period, the price of a three-bedroom unmodernized terrace house in Fulham leapt from £110,000 to £142,000. In Pimlico, another booming area, a four-storey house increased in value from £158,000 to £220,000 in less than a year.

These are examples of the dramatic boom in property prices. The main factors behind the explosion are:

- Easy money. Institutions are falling over each other to lend, in some cases with disastrous consequences for the borrower.
- Supply and demand. Encouraged by government policy more people, including council tenants, want to buy, but the housing stock increases by only one per cent a year.
- Land scarcity. Green Belt legislation means that land for housing is hard to find and expensive to buy.
- Spending power. Tax changes and the growth of real incomes mean that people have more cash to spare each month.

This is all well and good for many of those on high incomes who are already on the property spiral. But behind the figures lie signs of young couples stretched to breaking point by repayments of mortgages of nearly four times their salaries, loans which even the brokers who arrange them regard as "suicidal".

About 300,000 owner-occupiers in Britain are in serious mortgage arrears, according to research by Dr John Doling, senior lecturer at Birmingham University's Centre for Urban Regional Studies. They represent 5 per cent of the mortgage-paying public. This new social problem, he says, can only get worse unless government housing policy changes.

Dr Doling, who has made a two-year study of mortgage debt, claims that there are cases of serious arrears spread across the

A Times investigation by Jack Crossley, Christopher Warman and Michael Dynes

whole spectrum of house ownership. "Official figures from the building societies about the number of repossessions are misleading to say the least," he says. "They refer to cases where people have been more than six months in arrears. Some mortgage lending institutions go for legal repossession long before six months have passed."

"At present it is too easy to raise mortgage money. I have known of many cases where borrowers have raised considerably more than 100 per cent. Some lenders have been granting mortgages at income ratios much higher than they would have done a few years ago."

The boom has created some extraordinary social phenomena. Increasing numbers of borrowers are finding themselves:

- On the point of being evicted by a building society or a bank.
- Going without a car, a holiday, or even the occasional night out because the mortgage is costing up to two-thirds of take-home pay.
- Living in sin, because that is the only way to get full advantage from mortgage tax relief.

The problem is exacerbated by the fact that everybody — except the first-time buyer — has a vested interest in spiralling prices. Building societies, banks, mortgage brokers, estate agents, surveyors, builders, solicitors — all benefit. Consequently no one is prepared to step in and stop the spiral.

Meanwhile there is a huge widening north-south divide in the price of houses. Whereas the yearly increase to July was 21.9 per cent in Greater London, 16.3 per cent in the south-east (excluding Greater London) and 13.8 per cent in East Anglia, in the north the average — according to the Halifax Building Society — was less than 4 per cent, while in Scotland it was under 3 per cent. The national average increase was 14 per cent — well above the rate of inflation.

The widening of the north-south gap is confirmed by Mr David Leslie of Dudley Charlton, the biggest agents in the north-east. "Price rises here have been very modest for two years and we shall be lucky if they rise by as much as 5 per cent in the next year," he said, adding that the influx of foreign money had helped to force up southern prices.

The present boom does not compare with the peaks of the 1970s, when in early 1973 houses were worth 50 per cent more than a year earlier. And in 1979 prices were 31 per cent higher than a year earlier. Even so, house prices have been rising in real terms since the beginning of 1982, and according to Patrick Foley, economist with Lloyds Bank, are now higher than at any time since 1973.



'All I did was buy what I could afford at the time; the market followed me'

North to south, rags to riches

Henry Mee is not a successful property developer — but he has a track record that would be the envy of one. In fact he is a successful portrait painter and in 1975 his first venture into property had all the hallmarks of the young artist struggling to get by.

He paid £1,200 for a house in Leeds which was

subsequently condemned as unfit for human habitation. Eleven years later, he owns a fine Georgian house worth £235,000.

He says of that first house: "I decorated it and put in some central heating whilst other houses were being bricked-up and the occupants forced out by Leeds Corporation."

Nevertheless, in 1981, the Leeds house was compulsorily purchased by the city council for £5,000 — only half its market value of £10,000 but enough to allow Mr Mee to put down a deposit on a £17,000 Victorian house in Camberwell, south London, then still to acquire its present status. Buying that house from

the local council was something of an adventure in itself. Mr Mee walked into their offices brandishing £2,500 in notes and was described by the clerk as "a very serious buyer". The council gave Mr Mee an £8,000 improvement grant on what was a former "potman's" cottage, forming part of an adjoining pub.

Canvas returns: society painter Henry Mee paid £17,000 in 1981 for a house, left, in Camberwell. Now he owns, right, a former admiral's home worth £235,000

"I had no actual money, nor did I have, until I sold the Leeds house and moved to London when I was commissioned to paint a portrait of the Prince of Wales by the Press Club. Camberwell was a rough area in 1982 — the back windows of the house were shattered by shotgun blasts on one occasion when I was there", Mee says.

The house was sold for £60,000 two years later, and Mr Mee bought his present

home in Jamaica Road, south-east London, for £27,000 in 1985.

With the growth of the Docklands and further spectacular property price rises, this fine Georgian house, formerly the home of an admiral, has nearly quadrupled in value.

"All I did", Mee says, "was buy what I could afford at the time, so that I could live and work from a convenient place. Each time the market followed me."

1970s, when in early 1973 houses were worth 50 per cent more than a year earlier. And in 1979 prices were 31 per cent higher than a year earlier. Even so, house prices have been rising in real terms since the beginning of 1982, and according to Patrick Foley, economist with Lloyds Bank, are now higher than at any time since 1973.

At the root of the burgeoning property price rise is the rise in the level of real disposable income — just as it was in the two booms of the 1970s. That, plus a housing stock more or less static at 22 million while supply continues to rise — boosted by the Thatcher government through measures like right-to-buy legislation for council tenants — produce a buying spiral which now sees home ownership at about 64 per cent in England and 62 per cent in the UK as a whole, almost 9 per cent up in a decade. Some one million council tenants have become home owners, and the numbers are being swelled by single people; many are young but there is also a growing number of divorced people.

Both the Bank of England and

the Halifax believe the increased availability of mortgage finance and the recent fall in mortgage rates may have contributed to the price boom.

A recent report by the Halifax said: "Since the stock of housing is more or less fixed and there are few alternatives to owner-occupation, house prices will reflect effective demand pressures and will be driven by households' ability to pay."

One consequence of high prices is that first-time buyers are having difficulty getting into the market. Lending and borrowing in the Seventies was done at a time of high inflation and wage increases which kept pace with that inflation. If you did take the risk of borrowing beyond your means your income quickly grew to solve the problem.

Now, however, if borrowers overstretch themselves they cannot rely on inflation to get them out of trouble.

Land costs dramatically influence house prices. Although builders are coy about breaking down the costs which go to make up a house price, Wimpey, one of the largest, has provided figures

which illustrate the huge north-south divide in prices.

They compare a two-bedroom end of terrace house in Hayes, Middlesex, where land costs about £400,000 an acre, and one in Doncaster, where land is about £42,000 an acre. The cost of each house breaks down like this:

| Doncaster | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Land..... | £2,100 |
| Materials/labour..... | £16,000 |
| Marketing etc..... | £900 |
| Total..... | £19,000 |
| Sale price..... | £23,500 |
| Profit..... | £4,500 |

| Hayes | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Land..... | £20,000 |
| Materials/labour..... | £17,600 |
| Marketing..... | £1,900 |
| Total..... | £39,500 |
| Selling price..... | £58,000 |
| Profit..... | £18,500 |

A first-time buyer might be stretched to afford the Hayes house, but there are many others who can. The easy availability of loans and the relaxation of the

lending criteria by some building societies and lending institutions is seen by some as fuelling the rise in prices.

Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of the Office of Fair Trading believes that money lenders should take on more responsibility for the problems their easy credit policies are creating. They should increase their support for voluntary bodies which offer help to hard-pressed debtors.

"Financial institutions have a responsibility to help solve the problem — or face the prospect of government regulations that would force them to do so," he says.

Mr Mark Bolest, secretary-general of the Building Societies Association, rejects the widely-canvassed view that lending makes for dearer homes. "It depends far more on the number of people who want to buy a house."

Most estate agents say they are not to blame for the boom. Peter Miller, housing spokesman for the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, admits that a good estate agent will get the best price for a property by his expertise in valuing and marketing, but says: "I don't think you can cook the market. People have got enough time to get out of a transaction if they want to."

But Andrew Langton, of the London agents Aylesford, says that certain agents in booming areas "can talk prices up. If they read the business pages and paid more attention to the fall in oil prices (which has reduced Arab property investment here) rather than concentrate on earning their new car, there might be a more sensible market. Too many estate agents talk too loudly to too many people, and that can cause prices to jump."

Tomorrow

Easy money and broken hearts

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Limitless loans

Have lending criteria become too lax? There is no shortage of people in the lending business willing to let prospective buyers take on frightening debts. Indeed some mortgage brokers will arrange loans they themselves regard as foolhardy.

Prospective home-owners who are determined to push their resources to the limit will find dozens of mortgage brokers willing to assist them take on a debt that would make most banks and building societies shudder with horror.

Based on a random selection of mortgage brokers, *The Times* found that a single person earning £14,900 per annum could obtain 100 per cent mortgage anywhere between £42,000 and £52,500.

One broker said he could raise £61,000 for a person on £16,500 a year. That mortgage, on a low-cost endowment basis, would cost £567 a month out of a net income of £927.

'You've got no margin at all'

If you question brokers about the wisdom of taking on a mortgage above the £42,000 mark, most would strongly advise you to think again. Yet there's nothing to stop you taking on a debt of this magnitude.

Malbridge Financial Services, for example, offered the maximum obtainable mortgage of £52,500, three and three quarter times a salary of £14,000, at 12 per cent interest. However, the broker acknowledged that "you're letting yourself in for a lot of trouble with this kind of commitment."

He added: "To be perfectly honest, few lenders are prepared to give you more than three times your income. At the moment interest rates are relatively low,

but if they go up one or two per cent, then you've really had it. You've got no margin at all."

So why offer to arrange such a loan? "I am tempted to ask people how on earth they think they can afford it if something goes wrong," said the broker. "But it's really not up to me to decide what they can or can't afford. It can be done, people do it all the time. But you'd never catch me taking on that kind of commitment," he said.

'Remember the hidden costs'

The broker at Transworld Financial Services, who could arrange a 100 per cent mortgage on a £49,000 property at 11.5 per cent interest, was equally candid. "My advice to you would be to avoid taking on the maximum mortgage available. A 95 per cent mortgage is more than enough to cope with. If you begin with a 100 per cent mortgage, you're crippled before you start."

"There are many companies that will encourage you to go for a big mortgage, but they'll never tell you about the rate of repossessions. You've got to take into account all the hidden costs in buying a house, or you'll end up in terrible trouble," he said.

At Overseas Financial Services, you can get a 100 per cent mortgage on properties up to £50,000 at 12 per cent interest. But the broker there seemed indifferent to the argument that such a sum would stretch the borrower to breaking point.

"At the end of the day, it's really up to you," he said. "If you want to take out this kind of mortgage, then I shall attempt to stop you. I'd feel very secure with a mortgage like this, so long as I had a good job, and my income was going to keep going up."

Believing pain po

SMALLER FOR CHIRI

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MONDAY PAGE

Are women masochistic? Dr Paula J. Caplan sees much grief arising from the belief that they are — but to Barbara Toner such arguments are hopelessly outdated

'Believing that we seek out pain poisons our lives'

When the man in my life hurts my feelings, or when I've put on weight, or when I'm frustrated about my children or my job, people sometimes ask me: "Why do you do this to yourself?", suggesting that I set out to put myself in unhappy situations.

Such words are the most common expression of the myth of women's masochism, responsible for profound and far-reaching emotional and physical harm to women and girls.

"Masochism" means the need to derive pleasure from pain. If my 10-year-old daughter were to hear women described as masochists, and if she went to the dictionary to see what the word meant, she would learn that women enjoy their suffering.

The belief that females seek out pain and suffering, that we have an innate need for misery, poisons every aspect of women's lives. Often we are not even aware when the myth comes into play, since it is such a familiar part of our culture that the following stories are the rule rather than the exception.

Elizabeth has three children and a full-time job as a teacher. When her children are making more than their usual demands on her, and it's an especially busy time at school, she becomes tired and frazzled.

When she mentions this to



Paula J. Caplan

her friends, some of them smile knowingly and say sympathetically: "You really are a masochist!" They do not consider that Elizabeth must work to feed her three children and that even if she didn't, she relishes living life to the fullest, enjoying both motherhood and employment.

Maria was a successful journalist before her son was born and she now stays home to care for him. Usually she takes great pleasure in the time she spends with him, but sometimes, when he has colicky and fretful spells, or when he goes for weeks without sleeping more than three hours in a row, she becomes irritated and exhausted.

At those times she thinks to herself: "It was my decision to stay home with him, so I brought this suffering on myself. Subconsciously, I must have wanted to suffer."

It was my professional experiences as a clinical and research psychologist, and later as a teacher of psychology, that first drew my attention to the myth of women's masochism. Over and over I heard and accepted with only a flicker of discomfort other clinicians' claims that female patients needed to suffer.

I did not question these interpretations of women's behaviour, because the people who voiced them spoke with the authority of Freud and decades of psychoanalytic history behind them. The first theorists to propose that women are naturally, inevitably masochistic were psychoanalysts who believed with Freud that "biology is destiny" and that the bodies dictate what happens in our minds and feelings. In the bodies of women, they felt, were the seeds of their biologically determined masochism.

Throughout history women have frequently had to endure some suffering to get what they enjoyed, but that is worlds away from wanting to suffer. A misogynist society has created any number of situations that make women unhappy. And then that same society uses the myth of women's masochism to blame the women themselves for their misery.

Women are far more likely than men to be held responsible if anything goes wrong in



Gold

their relationships or if harm befalls their children. In the work-place women are underpaid and subjected to sexual harassment or other mistreatment because of their sex. And at every news-stand and on television females see degrading, humiliating, pornographic depictions of women.

As a psychologist, a mother, a daughter and a friend, I have never met a woman who sought out these unequal responsibilities, frustrations and degradations. I have never spoken to a woman who would not gladly have waved a magic wand, if she could, to banish the painful aspects of her life.

But as long as the myth that women have an innate need to

suffer is maintained, millions of women will be needlessly unhappy, believing that they have no power to change, that the evil, the masochism, is within them.

We can refuse to let it pass when anyone calls a woman masochistic, whether the word itself is used or whether it's a phrase such as "Why does she do this to herself?" or "That's her fear of success." We can insist that alternative explanations for her behaviour be considered.

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Extracted from *The Myth of Women's Masochism* by Paula J. Caplan, published by Methuen (£12.95).

'A myth that anyone with half a brain would scorn'

In the 15 years since it first called for revolution, the women's movement has spawned countless advocates, many brilliant, most plausible, and nearly all American.

They all wanted to raise the collective western consciousness, and it seems to me that they have — assertive women are now two a penny, and the glamorous cops in top-rated TV series are as likely to be women as men.

Now, however, Dr Caplan's book gives us cause to wonder. In her world women's lives are poisoned by the belief that they seek out pain and suffering because they have an innate need for misery. Both sexes believe women to be ill, because they know it is sick to enjoy misery.

So women's problems are attributed to their madness rather than to the social institutions that cause them. They are hooked on Freud. It's a grim place.

Caplan would apparently like us to accept that the myth of women's masochism pervades all the "misogynist societies" of western culture.

But she may like to know that the myth hasn't travelled nearly as well as the consciousness-raising message. There's no denying the variety of unhappy lots for women but I have never heard a single one blame hers on her own need to suffer.

I can't remember when I last found a book so pro-



Barbara Toner

foundly irritating. *The Myth of Women's Masochism* has the ring of an elderly aunt confiding on one of your good days: "I don't care what everyone else says, dear, you look fine to me."

Dr Caplan gives little credit to the progress that has been made by women in the last decade. There is no denying that we are still lumbered with the absurd stereotypes which are trotted out from time to time to support some repressive notion or other, but they are given less and less credence.

The causes of women's unhappiness are the same as they always have been, with an adjustment here or there for social change. At least one in three women continues to find herself unhappily married, a vast number remain unemployed or underemployed, child care facilities are still awful and so on. A lot

could be done to improve matters by greater recognition of the potential in both men and women for flexible roles. But there is nothing to be gained from such outdated and inaccurate observations as "Mothers are made to feel they are failures if they have not taught their daughters to be self-sacrificing, self-denying and willing to put other people's needs first."

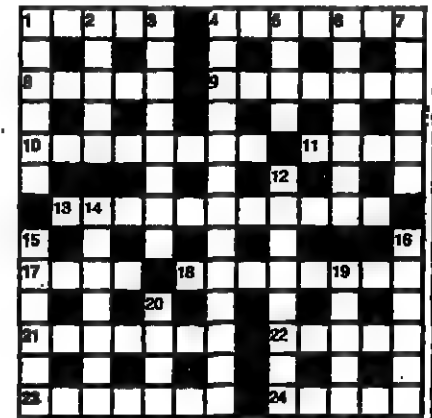
Where has Caplan been? The answer is attending case conferences as a research psychologist and teacher of psychology at various mental hospitals and clinics, where theories of women's innate masochism abound. Perhaps mentally distressed women the world over are told that their problems stem from either their own masochism or its denial. If this is the case it is a scandal, and the book should have been an exposé rather than a flawed analysis of the condition of women.

Much of the book is the standard feminist text on the frustration of the female stereotype, which while valid is not new. What is infuriating is to see it bound up with exhortations not to succumb to a myth that anyone with half a brain would scorn, or laugh out of court. I can't help thinking that if Caplan had been a geographer the book would have been called *Guess What? The World's Not Flat*.

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CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1066

- ACROSS
1 Sumptuous meal (5)
4 Reseach (7)
8 Less than (5)
9 Champion (7)
10 Readlike (8)
11 Ridgeline part (4)
13 Distain (11)
17 Embrocation (4)
18 Trouble-maker (8)
21 Therapy course (7)
23 Weak (5)
25 Slow tempo (7)
26 Large spoon (5)
DOWN
1 Downy (6)
2 S American mountains (5)
3 Winding (8)
4 Obstinate (13)
5 Proper (4)
6 Wealthy (7)
7 Regularly (6)
12 Appreciative



- 14 Betrothed (7)
15 Himalaya porter (6)
16 Squirmy (6)
19 Attempted (5)
20 Prophetic indication (4)

Over 60 and over here again

The GI brides were back in Blighty this weekend — to jive, jitterbug and remember when their men were young and lovely.

At home in the United States they may be widows, pensioners, mothers or grandmothers, but this weekend no one called them anything but the brides, the GI brides.

Forty years ago, from the decks of liners anchored at Southampton docks, they waved goodbye in overcoats with leather buttons, dark Betty Grable curls falling on their collars. Now 250 of them are back in slacks and sunglasses, the hair cut shorter and dyed, American inflections and slang fading in and out of the traces of Yorkshire, London and Glasgow.

Two hundred and fifty out of the 1946 total of 70,000 are in Southampton for a four-day reunion. Some of the GIs who lured them over the Atlantic have come too, their dashing war-time image lost to balding, greying old age. Once overseas, the Yanks are now over 60.

At the start of the first full day of their four-day reunion in Southampton, they piled on to double-decker buses for a visit to Perham Down Camp at Tidworth, where most of the brides had been kept for



Jitterbugs: Dorothy McDaniel and a young '40s fan get back into the mood at Southampton

days, sometimes weeks, to clear customs and immigration before sailing.

"Why on earth are we going to Tidworth?" asks Phyllis Duerling from Maryland. She'd rather spend time shopping in Salisbury.

Walking around the camp now, she and her fellow brides can just remember being here, their babies falling sick, the intense boredom of waiting, the food served by Italians and Germans with the letters "POW" stamped on their jackets. "It was all 40 years ago," they say. "We were just confused young girls."

Back on the bus, the brides sing "Kiss Me Goodnight Sergeant Major", but the old GIs don't join in. The legendary good-time boys have

been quietened by the passing years while their sweet English robes have seemingly grown more raucous.

"They wave to young soldiers on the roadside and their

Their sweet English roses seem to have grown more raucous

minds slip back to all the GIs they didn't marry. "Remember Joey Casey?" asks Beryl. "He was lovely. They were all young and lovely."

"We were all young and lovely then," says Phyllis. "We're not old now," protests a voice from the front of the bus. "It's only our bodies. We weren't old last night were we?"

Thursday night, the first of the reunion, had been a forties style knees up. They danced and sang and ate fish and chips and Spam.

Marjorie Clark, now 67, met her GI at the Mostyn Club in Pwllheli, where she served Sunday breakfasts. She married in October 1944, but didn't see her husband again until March 1946 at the quayside in New York. "The biggest thrill was seeing the statue of Liberty," she remembers. "The biggest disappointment was finding that my new home was an eight-hour drive away in a hamlet on a mountainside near the Canadian border with only one grocery store."

Marjorie eventually divorced her GI husband, the

mystique of Hollywood and freshly pressed uniforms evaporating in the reality of family life in post-war America. And like many other GI brides, she still holds a flame for a boyfriend killed in action. "Lieutenant Ray Bennett," she says slowly, still savouring the name. "Now there was an officer and a gentleman."

The bus stops for cream tea and cakes at the Carlton Hotel

They danced, sang and ate fish and chips and Spam

which overlooks the sea at Bournemouth. For 12,000 fortunate war brides this was their Tidworth and they had little to complain about. One of them points to the curving Dorset coastline and asks whether it's the white cliffs of Dover.

At Southampton Guildhall in the evening there's a jitterbug dance, and when Syd Lawrence's 16-piece orchestra swings into action, the brides show that four decades haven't erased the memory of the steps that helped them jive, jitterbug and waltz their way through the war. Young World War II fans, barely in their 20s, add authenticity

with their GI uniforms and crew cuts.

Dancing with one of them, Dorothy McDaniel of Sarasota, Florida, is taken back to her teenage days in Swindon where she worked as an American Red Cross volunteer and where her parents invited GIs home for dinner. Still beautiful at 59, Dorothy married a GI at 19. "When he went to the front, I didn't see him for over a year," she says. "Then one day a cab came to my door with a note saying that he was back in town. He'd been given special leave to get married. We got married four days later."

They didn't divorce until 25 years later, raising a family in between. Now she's married to a man who didn't fight in the war and who prefers Johnny Cash to her Glenn Miller. So what is Dorothy thinking as Syd Lawrence romps through "In the Mood"?

"They were good times," she says. "Back then it was here today and gone tomorrow. You just had a good time while you could. I wouldn't have missed it for the world. I know people who'd give anything to be back in those days of World War II."

Steve Turner

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Beaten with a silver spoon

The next time I feel tempted to complain about a Woman's Lot, I shall close my eyes and think of Patrick Lichfield, the Lionel Blair look-alike in the Burberry mackintosh.

Lord Lichfield's autobiography, *Not the Whole Truth*, is published today (Constable, £10.95). It uncovers a life more gaudy than any woman could contemplate but which quite a few men still have to endure, especially if they were born with a silver spoon in their mouth but, subsequently, have not been provided with the wherewithal to buy the polish to keep it untarnished.

Women hold tight to the theory that men are somehow "born" to cope with the stresses and strains of a working life while they themselves, by dint of their lovely natures, suffer more when the going gets rough. Hence all the workshops, networks and counselling services which working women set up for themselves just so that they can complain how beastly everyone and everything is at the office.

Patrick Lichfield proves that life isn't a picnic for men either: in fact, I rather think, since they have never been allowed to express their feelings on the matter, that they are the ones who need all the support groups. But imagine what would happen if male bankers or estate agents or, indeed, photographers got together to talk about their career problems — their clients would move gingerly away



PENNY PERRICK

towards someone whose upper-lip was stiffer.

Being grown-up didn't help Patrick Lichfield much because he went to Sandhurst, which was rather like an extension of Harrow with the same cruel jokes — new recruits had to gulp down a pint mug filled with a measure of every spirit in the bar, plus the dregs from the ashtrays. When men suffer, since society doesn't allow them to cry, they play dreadful games of lifemanship instead.

Lord Lichfield showed enormous courage in leaving the Army to become a photographer at a time when that profession was regarded as "far worse than being an interior decorator; only marginally better than hair-dressing". Again, one thought how much easier life would

have been for him had he been born a girl.

Aristocratic families seem to want nothing very much for their daughters as long as they don't get pregnant or run off with the milkman. They are allowed to be china restorers, sales assistants at Asprey or, if they can afford it, to simply sit around waiting for Lord Right without anyone expressing disapproval.

Fortunately for Patrick Lichfield, he hadn't been snapping away for very long before the Sixties arrived and photographers, interior designers and even hairdressers became the heroes of the new age of Swinging Sillyness. But where did it get him? An empty life of shallow relationships and "flash and grab" work. Here is another lesson for self-pitying women: we assume that we are the only ones who have to charm and wheedle our way into good jobs. Well, if Lord Lichfield is anything to go by, so do men. He drove himself into a state of exhaustion dealing with disgruntled dukes, desperate debs and models who were as thick as a pudding.

Lichfield admits that his book is a "convenient fiction" and there is no mention of what one would most want to know about, which is how his marriage broke down because of his workaholic habits. The effect of work on marriage is one of the most under-discussed contemporary topics. But I think it will take a woman to tell it like it is.

First wife's raw deal

TALKBACK

From Mrs Anne G. Cox, Blackheath, London SE3.

Liz Gilt's article on the dilemma facing a second wife (Wednesday Page, September 17) was of great interest. The assumptions made could well be correct, but what about the financial dilemmas facing the first wife?

I was replaced after 16 years of marriage by a woman only three years younger. She is very well-off, and my former husband boasts of this to our children. Yes, he has to support me and our three sons, the latter for a definite period, the former for life. Unfair on him and his new wife? Maybe.

Considering our finances were provided by me for the first few years of marriage and that I provided considerable injections of capital subsequently, what are then my rights as the first wife? I provided whole-hearted support for his very demanding career, giving up a promising career of my own to raise our children almost single-handedly. Is this contribution not worth some recognition?

The first wife has in many cases a long, lonely time ahead of her if, like me, her commitment to her marriage was for a lifetime. She has lost companionship, status, security, stability and self-confidence. What about her anger and frustration?

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A BREATH OF FRESH AIR AIR CANADA

R W Johnson argues that Mrs Thatcher herself is an essential element of Kinnock's strategy

'Labour's most effective election poster would be the Iron Lady in full hectoring cry'

During the 1983 election campaign Michael Foot constantly harked back to the need for Labour to recapture the brave days of 1945. In the last few months, as Labour crept briefly over the 40 per cent line in the polls, that same vision of a great majoritarian party of social reform was again fleetingly glimpsed. A glimpse – not more.

Labour sometimes behaves as if 1945 can somehow be conjured back out of hope, rhetoric or reminiscence. But this is profoundly to misunderstand Labour's own electoral history. Not surprisingly, there is a note of confusion, as well as sadness, to such recent left-wing works as *Where Did The Forties Go?*

It is worth starting with the simple recognition that for all the myths of wartime unity, nothing so politicized class cleavages in Britain (and thus helped Labour) as the experience of war. In the last pre-1914 election Labour took just 7.1 per cent of the vote; in 1918 it leapt to 22.2 per cent, and in 1922 to 29.5 per cent.

By the time of the 1923 election the new order had settled down into a somewhat unstable equilibrium, with the Tories at 38.1 per cent, Labour at 30.5 and the Liberals at 29.6. Such figures made it clear that there were only two possibilities: Tory dominance or some variety of coalition. This was, indeed, the shape of the political universe until 1945 – Tory dominance overall but Lib-Lab coalitions in 1924 and 1929-31, an abortive Lib-Con coalition after 1931, and a Lib-Lab-Con coalition in 1940-45. The Labour vote had its ups and downs but a majority Labour government remained an impossibility.

The onset of war only served to confirm Tory dominance: the last Gallup poll published before the war was for the Tories at 58 per cent, Labour at 30.5 and the Liberals at 29.6. When polling resumed in June 1945, however, Labour stood at 38 per cent, the Tories at 31 per cent. A quiet but enormous seismic shift had taken place.

Thereafter the Labour lead steadily lengthened: by February 1945 Labour stood at 42 per cent, the Tories at 34, Liberals and Others at 22. Only the fact that nobody then paid any attention to opinion polls (and that politicians were quite wondrously out of touch with their electorate) prevented Churchill from realizing that, far from being on the brink of

a great khaki electoral triumph, the Tories were in danger of becoming a third party.

In fact the Tories did pull back – the actual Labour lead in the 1945 election was only 8 per cent (though it soared back to 19 per cent in the immediate post-election polls). The Labour landslide was treated as a sensation: in fact it had been inevitable at least since about the time of victory at Stalingrad.

The 1945 swing to Labour was quite unequal. In Labour heartlands such as Glasgow it was as little as 2.5 per cent, but across south-east England, the West Midlands and East Anglia – hitherto a virtual Labour desert – the swing was anywhere from 17 to 22 per cent. For the first and only time in its history Labour actually won a majority of the seats in England, and while the Labour gains were greatest of all among the working class, the party won a significant chunk of the middle class as well.

Labour's history since 1945 has been largely a story of peeling the onion, with the marginal groups of

The Left was slow to notice how things had altered

1945 being steadily stripped away. For a while this process was masked by a further consolidation of Labour's working-class support in its Celtic heartlands and the north of England, but by 1951 Labour's three-seat lead of 1945 in the south of England had already been turned into a 107-seat deficit.

By the late 1950s electoral analysts were so struck by the phenomenon that they began to pose the question, *Must Labour Lose?* Even the 1964 Labour victory was won on a share of the vote still in decline from 1959. In general, the further 1945 receded, the harder it became to hold together that old winning coalition.

It was, however, not until this process had run for almost another 20 years that the Left itself (in the shape of Eric Hobsbawm's *The Forward March of Labour Halted?*) began to notice it. There was something a little comic about the way this work suddenly legitimated within the Labour movement discussion of the social trends which electoral analysts had been pointing out for decades: the working class was shrinking, Labour was falling even to hold all of this, its natural constituency, let



DO YOU REALLY WANT FIVE MORE YEARS OF THIS?

XVOTE LABOUR

alone its old bridgehead in the middle class; and its policies were increasingly unpopular.

Remarkably, the recipe for renewal born out of this discussion was that Labour should 'federate the fragments', bringing together the women's movement, gays, peace and animal-rights campaigners – in a word, every sort of radical fringe movement – and thus break out from its shrinking industrial working-class heritage.

Nobody who advocated such a strategy advanced the slightest survey evidence to suggest that it would actually work: it was idealistic voluntarism, pure and simple. None the less, this was the strategy adopted in 1983, when Labour's manifesto was in effect cobbled together by every possible

sort of radical pressure group. Labour must have been the only major party in the world to enter a campaign with a pledge to abolish VAT on sanitary towels.

It was, of course, a disaster: the electorate was sick of parties in hock to pressure groups of any kind, and the pressure groups thus catered for were unable to deliver a bloc vote. Militant feminists could not deliver the women's vote; many CND sympathizers voted Alliance; even trade unionists swung massively to Thatcher.

Michael Foot was much criticized for harking back to the 1930s and 1940s in the campaign, but, ironically, he led Labour all the way back to 1923: not only was the division of the vote (Tories 43.9 per cent, Labour 28.2, Alliance

25.8) remarkably similar to the 1923 figures cited above, but Labour was all the way back to its inter-war profile in its reliance on its old rump electorate. The 'breakout' had turned into a rout.

This left Labour with a much reduced strategic choice. Federating the fragments had been a disaster. It also seemed unlikely that the time-honoured tactic of launching defensive, populist tirades against whatever the government did – which really meant just waiting for the pendulum to swing back – would any longer do.

Support chipped away from the Tories by purely negative tactics would surely find a more comfortable halfway house with the Alliance, now coming up fast on the rails: Labour would need more

positive appeal if it was not to do the Alliance's job for it.

Three choices remained. One was to rebuild upwards from the still immensely strong municipal bastions of Labour. After all, Labour had held its own against the Tories in municipal elections only a month before the 1983 rout. This strategy has failed. Mrs Thatcher launched a pre-emptive strike against those bastions, which were in any case too often headed by Labour politicians unresponsive to Labour's national needs. Extraordinarily, they managed to turn Labour's municipal trump card into a millstone.

A second possibility was to accept the old inter-war imperative and look for a coalition partner – in effect, the Mitterrand strategy of putting oneself at the head of a broad coalition which was gradually co-opted into line behind one. In effect, this (promising) strategy was dismissed as defeatist. Possibly 1983 could still see a last-minute round of bargaining in smoke-filled rooms, but the Mitterrand tactic of campaigning at length in this way, and thus moulding the electorate behind one's leadership, has not been tried.

The remaining alternative was to try to do what only Harold Wilson had done: reversing Labour's remorseless decline by essentially political means. For 1963-66 is still the only period since 1957 when Labour consistently won over 40 per cent in the opinion polls. Wilson lost nerve and direction in government but as a campaigner Labour has never seen his equal: indeed, he won four elections out of five. Wilson pandered over party disunity, downplayed unpopular policies, used the media with an adroit sureness of touch, exuded an air of intellectual authority and headed the most talented team Labour has ever had.

To opt to emulate Wilson – despite a far less talented frontbench team, a far less experienced leader, an indifferent touch with the media, and a party undisciplined by three successive election defeats – was thus a little akin to Rocky Balboa deciding to challenge Apollo Creed for the world heavyweight championship. Even in the film Rocky hadn't managed that at the first attempt.

In effect Labour opted for a combination of emulating Wilson and relying on the pendulum. Remarkably, this mixture of over-vaunting ambition and the threadbare Labour back into serious con-

tion. Probably the most important factor has been – and remains – Mrs Thatcher's stunning personal unpopularity (only 9 per cent of the electorate would want her as a friend, only 6 per cent think she is open-minded, etc.). Labour's most effective election poster would probably be a picture of the Iron Lady in full hectoring cry and the simple question, 'Do you really want five more years of this?'

Three things are necessary if Labour's current strategic mix is to work.

First, the electorate has to retain its present distaste (evident in the polls) for coalition government, and thus be willing to plump for 'the only possible alternative government'. Second, Labour must retain a healthy opinion-poll lead over the Alliance so that it appears as that 'only possible alternative'. And third, the Conservatives must, at all costs, refuse to heed advice that they should change leaders before the election: that is, there is an objective coincidence of interest.

Heathites have an interest in a Thatcher defeat

on this point between the Labour leadership and the Tory Right.

This is only one of several odd coincidences. If Mrs Thatcher wins the next election she will control the succession process – in which case there is no real future for Messrs Heseltine, Walker, or other Heathites. Whatever their public protests to the contrary, such men have a coincident interest with Labour in a Thatcher-led Tory defeat. For David Owen, on the other hand, a Labour plurality, let alone majority, would be the true disaster: for him the objective coincidence of interest is with Mrs Thatcher.

Considerations such as these will doubtless be little discussed at the Labour conference. It will be all Kinnock and Kaufman; Hattersley and Heffer; the classic call to resurrect 1945, and so on. There is a resolute know-nothingness about the way serious discussion of strategy is always baulked at. In effect the party has opted, in typically British fashion, to muddle through. But this is Britain, which means others will do the same or worse. Muddling through could be still just enough.

The author is a fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford.

Richard Hope

Overdoing those Chunnel fears

Eurotunnel, the consortium which has won the contract to build the Channel Tunnel, will today mail a pathfinder prospectus to institutional investors. It confirms that the 40 banks which promised support a year ago are still prepared to advance up to £5 billion in loans and interest-free funds to buy £206 million of equity in advance of the £750 million public offering planned for mid-1987.

All this assumes, of course, that the bill now grinding its way through committee hearings in Parliament actually gets the royal assent next summer. There is no wavering in Paris, but British fund managers are keenly aware that an early election would halt the bill's progress. A more serious issue for Eurotunnel is doubt being cast on the safety of the frequent trains which will whisk cars, coaches and lorries through the 30-mile bores at 100 mph.

Last week a video released by Sealink, the cross-Channel ferry operator, raised the spectre of hundreds of people dying amid a chain reaction of exploding petrol tanks if motorists were allowed to sit in their cars aboard the trains. While Sealink is scarcely a disinterested observer, the safety issues raised by various experts must be answered.

If the independent safety authority to be set up under the treaty signed last March rules that passengers must vacate their cars while in the tunnel, Eurotunnel is in serious trouble. Providing separate seating would not be impossible, but the delays while road vehicles were vacated and then reoccupied would wreck the meticulous calculations on which the operation rests.

Sealink's case is that mixing people with petrol on the trains must be dangerous because it is forbidden on ships. The safety authority must ask if, in this respect, trains and ferries are comparable.

Transport offers many examples where different safety standards apply to competing types of travel. Standing passengers are allowed on trains, but not coaches or aircraft. The safety environment of a ship, where the principal hazard is drowning if it sinks, is so far removed from the Channel Tunnel that direct comparisons are meaningless.

What the safety authority will seek are hard statistics on accidents to trains in long tunnels, especially where fire was involved. More particularly, they will want factual evidence that carrying

passengers in cars on trains has not led to major accidents. The safety precautions postulated by Eurotunnel can then be compared with those considered necessary by experienced operators.

Fortunately for Eurotunnel, cars have been carried in this way through the Alpine tunnels for half a century. Since the Gotthard was paralleled by a road tunnel in 1980, the busiest railway line has been under the Lotschberg Pass (600,000 road vehicles in 1984), and there are similar services through the Simplon and Furka tunnels. These tunnels are between nine and 13 miles long.

The Swiss have fire-fighting trains in constant readiness outside each tunnel. This is just as well, for Lotschberg and Furka are a single bore offering no refuge from smoke or fumes. At least the Channel Tunnel will have three parallel bores, with the central service tunnel pressurized to keep out smoke from a train fire, and accessible by cross-passages every 400 yards.

Moreover, Swiss motorists ride on open wagons. There is an obvious danger that any fire could be swept back along the line of cars by the blast of air from the train's movement. Eurotunnel trains will be totally enclosed, with barriers designed to contain any fire within one carriage for 30 minutes.

Despite the possible hazards, the Swiss trains have safely carried some 30 million cars – the number which Eurotunnel expects to carry in its first nine years: so a statistical basis for comparison does exist.

Townsend Thoresen's technical director, Jimmy Ayers, has said that in the event of a serious derailment, cars would crash into each other, causing a certain fire. But there was no fire when cars on cross-Channel ferries took a battering from Hurricane Charlie on August bank holiday in conditions not dissimilar to a derailment in a tunnel where carriages would almost certainly come to rest upright and in line.

Safety is never absolute. It is about assessment of risk based on practical experience. There is nothing in the record to suggest that carrying people in cars on trains is dangerous: indeed, it is indeed safer than carrying them in cars on roads.

So investors have no cause to fear that safety issues will scupper the Channel Tunnel. Predicting the date of the general election is another story.

The author is editor of *Railway Gazette*.

Blackpool beachhead

As the Labour Party braces itself for tonight's American critique of its defence policy on TV, it would do well to keep its eye on an equally familiar adversary nearer home – the Conservative Party. The Tories have picked Blackpool week to fire their own broadside at the unilateralist approach; on Wednesday George Younger, the Defence Secretary – who recently had talks with his American counterpart, Caspar Weinberger, on the implications of a Labour election victory – will give a speech at the Royal United Services Institute in which he will spell out the consequences of British withdrawal from any of its Nato roles. The speech is described by insiders at the MoD as 'robust'. More salvos are being prepared.

Unstrung

How will Labour line up on the issue which is proving to be among the most momentous of this year's party conferences: whether delegates should be allowed to buy *Spitting Image* puppets of their political bosses? I'm told that the absence of the two-David puppet (Steel fitting, nearly into Owen's pocket) at the Liberal assembly at Eastbourne was no accident. 'We have been told not to sell them', one vendor of political memorabilia confided.

Was it just a coincidence that one of the few guest houses boasting a 'vacancies' notice in conference-invaded Blackpool yesterday was the Hutton Hotel?

Day break

A British Rail ticket examiner yesterday achieved what political leaders have tried and failed to do for years: reduce Sir Robin Day to spluttering incoherence. Slightly aboard the Euston to Blackpool train, Sir Robin found he had mislaid his ticket. No amount of blustering, not even the production of the 63-year-old interviewee's pensioner's pass, could convince the guard to let him off. Finally another passenger donated a spare second-class ticket, leaving Sir Robin to produce a fistful of fivers to make up the difference that would allow him to stay put in his first-class compartment.

Well connected

Cecil Parkinson, still uncertain whether to brave next month's Tory conference, is busying himself as honorary president of the newly formed British Franco-phone Business Group. Backed by some of Britain's largest companies, it aims to increase Britain's puny 3 per cent share of the French-speaking Third World market, estimated to be worth

THE TIMES DIARY

£11 billion a year. Parkinson tells me he was chosen because of the contacts he made during ministerial visits to Gabon and Cameroon and that he hopes to lead trade delegations there. Meanwhile, he says that if, despite business commitments, he attends the Bournemouth conference, it will be only for a day; he has not even booked a hotel room. 'The story that I was planning a big comeback by making a speech there six weeks after the reshuffle was self-obvious garbage. Nor has anybody phoned me urging me to do or not to do anything.'

● A contestant on the television quiz show *3-2-1* on Saturday showed herself the best of Europeans. Asked to give the British equivalent of the American word 'yard', she replied: 'Metre'.

The Curzon?

How sets the sun on the British Empire? A progress report from Simla, in the Himalayan hills: spotting its *Jewel in the Crown* drawing power, India's new minister of tourism is to turn the resort's vice-regal lodge – where British princelings escaped the heat of the plains – into a hotel. Who was it who said *plus ça change, plus c'est la Memsahib*?

Singular man

The novelist J.P. Donleavy is making a new name for himself as an artist, having sold 90 paintings in the past few days at a Dublin exhibition; a London show is to follow shortly. All this stems from the 1940s when, as readers of *The Gingham Man* will recall, he won an art scholarship to Trinity College.

BARRY FANTONI



'They're calling you Rover? How embarrassing'

but it was only when a gallery-owning friend saw some of his paintings hanging on his living-room wall a few months ago that he realized they might be saleable. Many of them portray bawdy scenes from his book *The Beastly Beauties of Bathazur B.* Considering they are selling for £200 to £400 each, should he change vocation? No, he says. Painting is 'less cerebral and more relaxing' than writing, but, 'in economic terms there's nothing to beat the paperback book business'.

Fleshed out

The credibility of David Irving, the right-wing historian whose views on the Jewish Holocaust caused outrage in the 1970s, has taken a knock. In a recent press release Irving said that his great-grandfather, the explorer Alfred Dolman, was murdered and eaten by his native bearers in Borneo in 1851. Now a young Dolman has handed me a family tree which clearly shows that Irving's great-grandfather was not Alfred but his brother, Frederick. Further, Alfred was not even married and evidence at the trial revealed that, far from being eaten by his servant, he was in fact poisoned by a certain Henry J. Moyle, who left the body to be consumed by lions. When challenged with these facts, Irving's office told me he is retracting his claim.

Thin ice

Spare a thought for Peter Robinson, deputy leader of the Democratic Unionist Party and mayor of Castlereagh on the outskirts of Belfast. Wearing the latter's chain, he has just opened Ulster's only ice rink, for which the EEC is picking up half the £4.5 million tab as a regional development grant. Like all other council facilities, the rink will open on Sundays; indeed, the aid submission was predicated on seven-day opening, with Sunday as the best earning day. But Robinson, a staunch sabbatarian, strongly opposes this. Now moves are afoot to gather the 25 per cent of ratepayers' signatures necessary for a referendum on the issue.

Grandpopped

Clement Freud likes to tell of a visit to China earlier this year as a member of a parliamentary delegation which also included Winston Churchill. At the end Freud said to his Chinese hosts: 'I know you never do anything without reason, so why is it Mr Churchill was given a better hotel room than mine?' The answer came back: 'Well, Mr Freud, Mr Churchill had a very famous grandfather.' To which the grandson of psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud had absolutely no reply.

PHS

moreover... Miles Kingston

Mutinies we have known

The controversy over *The Monocled Mutineer* still rumbles on – or do controversies smoulder? Perhaps they even snore in their sleep. Never mind – we have received millions of letters about the programme, and it seems a shame to throw them all away, so here are the best.

From General Sir David Cutley: 'Sir, I was present as a young man at the mutiny at Etaples, in 1917, and I well remember the mass feelings of despair. For far too long we had suffered in silence. Now was the time to act. But at a mass meeting held on the day of the mutiny, one speaker spoke words which have remained engraved on my, you know, that thing, memory. He said:

'If we should take arms today against our officers, be sure of one thing: in years to come our story will be filmed by the technicians of the future, and they will be accused of not knowing what really went on here. Gentlemen, I want to ask you a question now: Does anyone here and now have the faintest idea what is going on?' There was an enormous yell of 'No!' and we pelted him with old grenades.

From Herbert von Salldorf: 'Sir, While I was watching *The Monocled Mutineer*, my mind went back to the Yorkshire cricket crisis of 1967 – or was it 1978? I remember, as if it were today, the mass of ordinary Yorkshire committee members, thousands upon thousands of them, herded together in a hotel somewhere. Their faces were white, their eyes were sunken. For far too long they had suffered in silence. Now was the time to act. All they needed was a leader.

Then a door opened, and out came Geoffrey Boycott, the man we called the Battling Batsman. Here at last was a man who could lead us to death, glory or being run out!

Looking back now, I wonder if it really happened and if Geoff Boycott was not an illusion.

Yours etc

From Nigel Whitley: 'Sir, I wonder if any of you can remember what working for the BBC was like? For fifty years or more we suffered in silence, waiting for a leader who would take charge of our frustrated feelings. Despair was rife. White-faced, we worked on under the conditions of the most brutal mediocrity. Then one day, Bill Cotton Junior arrived!

Unfortunately, he was not the man we were waiting for. I sometimes wonder if he even existed.

Yours etc

From Len Fairclap: 'Sir, Imagine the scene. It is the Liberal assembly. Their leader, David Steel, is telling them they must stand to shewer nuclear weapons on the Russians. Cut to their sullen faces. Feelings of mutiny. He lashes them with his voice. They murmur. His lip curls and he demands a vote of confidence. Nobody raises his hand. Sensational! The Liberals rise and start lynching the officers of the party.

Well, that's just the opening scene of my big new TV series, *The Luckless Liberal*. Would you care to put any money into it?

Yours etc

From Thania, Lady Taunton: 'Sir, Imagine the scene. It is outside Taunton cricket ground. The ground is filled with loyal yeoman followers of the old cause. Not since the Rebellion of '88 have so many pikes and halberds been seen. Suddenly, there is a roar, and three god-like heroes appear on the shoulders of the horde: there are cries of 'Long Live Ian, Viv and Joel! Viv, Joel and Ian for King! Before our eyes, the mob sweeps out of Taunton and on the road to London, there to crown their idols on the throne of England! The regime crumbles! Peter Roebuck goes into exile! The BBC makes a programme called *The Swashbuckling Somersetshire*. In all the hurly-burly, I lose an ear. It is shaped like the heavy roller they use at Taunton. If anyone finds it, there is a reward.

Yours etc

From Georgia Thynne: 'Sir, A controversy doesn't rumble, it dies of boredom.

Yours etc



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

MR KINNOCK'S PARTY

Labour enters its annual conference at Blackpool this week in a higher state of morale and with greater public support than any unprejudiced observer would have thought possible only three years ago. The opinion polls have given the party a lead of around five per cent for the past year. It seems to be naturally in tune with many of the themes currently embraced by public opinion, notably a belief that public spending should be increased rather than taxes cut. Labour's extremists have faded into the background. And Mr Neil Kinnock has matured into a soothing television statesman whose pre-conference interview with Mr David Dimbleby yesterday displayed an almost Wilsonian polish.

Beneath this surface, however, lurk various submerged problems. Of these the most important is the public's almost traditional distrust of Labour's financial approach. Battle has already been joined here. The Treasury Chief Secretary, Mr John MacGregor, has "calculated" that Labour commitments would require £28 billion in additional spending.

The independent audit of Labour's spending plans by the Institute for Fiscal Studies, however, concludes that Mr MacGregor is pushing things to claim all Labour's longer term musings as solid "commitments". With the election possibly looming, Mr Hattersley has hastily made it clear that the party has just two immediate priorities: an anti-

poverty package and an anti-unemployment package. On these the party gets a reasonably clean bill of health.

And if revenue increases are taken into account, the net cost of Labour's longer term objectives may be a good deal less than the Chief Secretary's guesstimates. But the sum total is still a lot of money. So it was disquieting to hear Mr Kinnock explain yesterday that all health charges could be abolished in the first five years because "we're promoting a higher growth rate." Higher public expenditure cannot be financed by mere hopes.

Defence policy is another iceberg approaching Labour's shiny new hull. Questioned about Mr Caspar Weinberger's argument that Labour's promise to evict American nuclear forces from Britain would threaten NATO, Mr Kinnock was unconvincing. A Labour government, he claimed, would indeed abandon the British independent deterrent and evict US nuclear missiles from this country, but it would not then rely hypocritically upon the US deterrent for its protection. We would, on the contrary, disavow any such nuclear protection.

How, then, is this country to be defended against a Soviet nuclear threat? Mr Kinnock's answer was Britain and NATO would erect a conventional defence against the Soviet Union. Since a conventional defence is no deterrent against a nuclear attack, the hidden logic of this argument is that Britain would in reality continue to rely on the American

deterrent while disavowing it and indeed placing obstacles in the way of its operation. The voters are bound to reflect in the three weeks of an election campaign that a policy which relies upon the goodwill of a country it simultaneously insults is not likely to prove much of a defence.

That might not matter overmuch if, as with previous Labour governments, these commitments were likely to be abandoned in office. But the composition of the parliamentary Labour party in the event of a Labour victory is likely to make any such backsliding a difficult exercise. As the study carried out for *The Times* by Dr Peter Truscott of Exeter College showed, 89 of the candidates selected for 121 marginal seats were left-wingers of varying degrees of hardness compared to only 32 who were on the centre-right. That would be likely to produce a PLP in which 207 left-wingers were balanced by only 124 moderates. A few individual supporters of Miliband may have been ousted, but that cannot conceal that, for reasons outlined by Mr Kilroy-Silk in last week's *Times*, Labour has suffered an ideological sea-change.

Mr Kinnock can use his undoubted political skill either to distract attention from these unpleasant facts or to set about seriously changing them. If he adopts the former approach, he will have an enjoyable week in Blackpool — and a great deal of explaining away to do when the election finally arrives.

MR REAGAN RESISTS SANCTIONS

President Reagan vetoed the Congressional Anti-apartheid Bill on Friday night on the grounds that the sanctions it imposed would hurt the very people that they were meant to help. This week he faces the prospect of seeing his veto over-ridden on Capitol Hill, assuming that the Senate and the House of Representatives can each muster a two-thirds majority against him. It would represent his first major defeat on foreign policy in six years.

He is right on the substantive issue. The sanctions envisaged by Congress have no prospect whatsoever of bringing a speedy end to apartheid; they are, indeed, more likely to entrench it by weakening the relatively liberal political influence of businesses involved in international trade and encouraging the growth of industries with an interest in economic autarky and political isolation; and in the meantime they will impoverish the black majority still further and strangle its early efforts at economic self-improvement.

But what of the political tactics involved? In Washington and Whitehall, where they are anxious to damp down the sanctions debate, officials are trying to portray it as a "catching up" exercise by the Americans. In fact the congressional package goes further than the European Community's package.

The import restrictions, for instance, include bans on South African uranium, textiles and coal. South African textiles amount to less than 1 per cent of American imports,

but contribute significantly to Pretoria's balance of payments. Sanctions on coal have just been rejected by the EEC.

The last thing wanted on either side of the Atlantic is a leap-frogging exercise. That is why there has been so much consultation in recent weeks. More embarrassing for the White House, however, is the demand that the United States should end all military aid to countries which are breaking the UN arms embargo on South Africa. This takes little account of international realities and must be bringing on palpitations in several countries, including Israel.

There appears to be little chance of averting a defeat in the House, or of winning over any Democrats in the Senate. But some Republicans who have recently swung against the Reagan position might respond to a thoughtful initiative by the White House.

What should the President do? The expected announcement of Mr Shultz's visit to Southern Africa next month and of the appointment of a black American ambassador to Pretoria will clearly not be enough to placate his critics. Should he attempt to preempt the Congressional measures by presenting a more moderate sanctions package of his own?

It can be argued that, by doing so, he would both make life easier for governments on this side of the Atlantic and also retain control of the foreign policy process. His proposals, for instance, might include provisions for amend-

ing or scaling down sanctions in response to reforms introduced by Pretoria. He might thus reduce the international damage in the bill before him.

But the President introduced just such a package of minor sanctions last year on identical reasoning. His admittedly modest concessions were duly used by Congress as a springboard for the harder measures in the present legislation. The same thing would be likely to happen again. The political dynamic of sanctions is such that, once installed, they would never be removed for any reform by Pretoria short of black majority rule in a unitary state.

As the American political maxim says, however, you can't beat something with nothing. If the President is to ward off congressional sanctions, he must produce a plan for positive intervention which offers some hope of advancing the rights and improving the livelihood of black South Africans. That means an ambitious and financially costly programme of assistance to black education, training, housing, employment, trade unions and businesses — carried on outside the structures of apartheid.

President Reagan has left it very late to promote a new Marshall Plan for black South Africa. But the alternative is to saddle America and his own Administration with federal legislation which is perverse, damaging and counter-productive.

IN A FARAWAY COUNTRY

Recent events in Czechoslovakia serve to remind us of the grim conditions that prevail in that unhappy country 18 years after the Warsaw Pact invasion. On 20th May this year the secret police opened criminal proceedings against the 55-year-old Jan Dus, well known in Czechoslovakia for his attempts to reconcile the Evangelical Church with the Communist Party.

Dus has been immensely popular as a priest; he is also well known to Western colleagues as a theologian and Hebrew philologist. He was arrested, imprisoned, and eventually charged with "damaging the interests of the Republic abroad", on the basis of evidence so scant as to be risible in any constitutionally governed State.

His principal mistake was to trust that the Party might welcome criticisms from someone who adhered to its own socialist goals, and who believed that it meant what it said in encouraging intellectual co-operation among the nations of Europe. Dr Dus is now liable to spend up to three years in prison, as a warning to all evangelical believers who forget to fear the Party.

Just as serious as this move

against the last fragment of "loyal opposition" has been the arrest on September 2 of eight leading members of the Jazz Section of the Musicians' Union. For two years the authorities have been moving against the Jazz Section, disturbed by its popularity with young people and by its habit of publishing, under its own imprint, books and pamphlets of a high but independent cultural standard.

However, the Jazz Section has international recognition. It is a member of the London-based International Jazz Federation. Many jazz and rock musicians in the West are familiar with its work, and it has done more than any other cultural organization in Czechoslovakia to sustain the spirit of cultural co-operation endorsed by the Helsinki Accords.

The authorities have tried to move against it with a mask of legality, afraid of the diplomatic costs that would ensue. Frustrated in their endeavours, they have now decided to charge the leaders of the Jazz Section with "unlicensed trading" — an offence which carries a maximum of eight years in jail.

Jan Dus and the Jazz Section are both popular in their own country, and both have tried to maintain an open, legal and legitimate posture in their dealings with the authorities. The moves against them can only be seen as a message by the Communist Party that it is now less interested than it was 10 years ago, either in reconciliation with the population that it governs, or in cultural dialogue with the West.

Helsinki stood for the building of bridges and the establishment of cultural ties. When the existence of those ties causes the authorities in Czechoslovakia to arrest those who take part in them, the value of Helsinki must come under question.

In the wake of the Daniloff affair, Western powers may begin to be aware of the considerable costs involved in normal diplomatic relations with communist powers. Either we should insist that the Helsinki accords be implemented or we should begin now to revise the structure of those relations, in the interests of ourselves, and of the peoples over whom the Communist Party exerts its rule.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A spectre over UK industry

From Viscount Watkinson, CH
Sir, How right you were to raise the future of Austin Rover in your leader of September 22. The continued existence of the group could be fundamental to any examination of the whole future of Britain's industrial base. May I raise a wider consideration to support this contention.

Rover is not only important for itself. The firm is vital to the whole future of the Midlands area, not only because of its own directly employed labour force, but even more because of the employment that it provides outside the group, to a complex network of component suppliers and service industries.

Jobs here are, in the main, not transferable but rest entirely on the back of the Rover factories. To close these factories down would tear the heart out of much of Midland manufacturing.

Yours sincerely,
Viscount Watkinson,
Tynas House,
Shore Road,
Bosham, Chichester, West Sussex.
September 22.

Help for chemistry

From Professor Emeritus Sir Ewart Jones
Sir, I have compiled the following facts, not hitherto available, which are relevant to the current discussion about education, research grants and national needs.

A survey of organic chemists with PhDs who received their research training or did research at Imperial College (1939-48) and at Manchester (1948-58) and Oxford (1958-78) universities, has been completed. Out of 512 British workers, 291 (57 per cent) made, or are making, their careers in industry or commerce, mostly in this country, but a few (34) in North America and some (12) in Europe.

Data from other academic establishments would undoubtedly reveal a similar pattern.

This supply of trained manpower must have helped the UK chemical industry to make, in 1985, its large positive contribution (£2.5 billion) to our miserable trade balance in manufactured goods (in deficit by £5.77 billion). Surely we should be doing all in our power to foster such vital assets.

Yours sincerely,
E. R. H. JONES,
6 Sandy Lane, Yarnton, Oxford.

Third World twins

From Mr Paul Williams
Sir, Following the correspondence (September 19 and 23) about Third World town twinning, your readers may be interested to know that in March last year the then Lesotho High Commissioner came to Cardiff to launch the linking of Wales with Lesotho. At the launching, which was hosted by the Welsh Office, the Lesotho High Commissioner said that as far as he knew a linking on this scale was unique in the world.

To date 21 schools in Wales (10 secondary and 11 primary) have linked with corresponding schools in Lesotho. The Council of Churches for Wales is linked with the Lesotho Christian Council. Hospitals are beginning links. The Young Farmers' group, leading women's organisations, the Welsh Council in Wales, as well as some university departments and local councils, are involved. The Welsh TUC is making contact with the Lesotho Congress of Free Trade Unions.

A primary headteacher from Morija, in Lesotho, wrote to a Bangor primary head:

I was thrilled to hear that your school had become a twin to ours... Millions of pounds have been pumped into Africa, with disappointing results, and I feel sure that something like Dolen Cymru (Wales Link) will go a long way in establishing the real needs of the people here.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL WILLIAMS (Joint Secretary, Dolen Cymru),
11 Min Menai,
Bangor, Gwynedd.

Fruitless question

From Mr J. E. P. Froggatt
Sir, May I offer a choice of practical responses to Mr Lee's dilemma (September 22)? Most simply, if the Royal Horticultural Society is to be believed, a planting of the self-fertile J.C. van Tol will give him regular good crops of red berries and reliable pollination of his other holly bushes, if female.

Alternatively, he could plant Golden King, always a female, and Silver Queen, equally misleadingly a male. The former is a gold and green variegated while the latter has green-grey mottled leaves with a margin of white.

Yours faithfully,
J.E.P. FROGGATT,
Lower Ash,
South Brent, Devon.
September 23.

Polls apart

From the Managing Director of Market and Opinion Research International
Sir, R.C. Barton (September 24) advances the alleged fragility of the alliance between the Liberals and the SDP as a reason why opinion polls should show support for the two separately.

Although the evidence shows the Alliance parties are developing a different and distinctive social basis from one another, their agreement not to contest one another in the same seats means that the public cannot differen-

Ensuring funds for rescue digs

From the Director of the Council for British Archaeology
Sir, The letter from the Chief Executive of English Heritage (September 25) raises an important issue of principle. In its written submission to the Commons Select Committee on the Environment recently my council recommended that "Legislation should be introduced to place a statutory obligation upon developers (including Government departments and nationalised industries) to finance rescue excavation, post-excavation work and publication resulting from their activities."

The English Heritage submission to the same committee was non-committal in this respect, to our regret, and so it is heartening to learn that there has been a change of heart in Fortress House.

The significant upturn in development and road building over the past year or so is putting inordinate pressure on an already inadequate allocation for rescue archaeology from Government funds. The time has come for the United Kingdom to follow the example of many European countries and the United States (with respect to federally funded projects) by introducing legislation to this effect without delay.

Unless an additional source of funding is made available, the loss of information about our country's historical heritage will become catastrophic, and this generation will deserve the reproaches of generations to come.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY CLEERE, Director,
Council for British Archaeology,
112 Kennington Road, SE11.
September 25.

Fears for Mendips

From Mr V. D. Dennison
Sir, In their letter (September 9), Wing Commander D.D. Martin and Mr David Hicks wrote about "the restrictive powers of AONB (area of outstanding natural beauty) designation". The Chairman of the Countryside Commission (September 12) wrote only "those who believe that designation is a vitally important protection tool".

We in the Mendip Society are

becoming very disillusioned about the alleged protection of AONB designation. The Mendip Hills AONB was designated in 1972. Inside its boundary was a stock car racing circuit for which temporary planning permission had been granted. It is still there, having had its permission renewed on each application by Sedgemoor District Council.

The adjoining Battscombe quarry is still being away at the face of the southern slopes adjacent to Cheddar Gorge and has now been given planning permission for extensive dumping on the skyline. A caravan site has been allowed to extend its area by five acres in the AONB.

The Mendip Society asked for the application to be called in; it was refused by the Department of the Environment after a public inquiry; it was slightly amended, re-submitted and allowed by a different inspector after a second public inquiry. The Mendip Society does not have the funds to employ counsel to fight these inquiries on its behalf.

Now the latest incongruity is that the Woodspring District Council has given planning permission for a ski slope, white and floodlit until 11 pm, to be constructed in the AONB on the wooded northern slopes of Mendip, an area which the AONB structure plan states "is a tract of particularly attractive unspoilt landscape and it is necessary to ensure that the dominant landscape, the woodland, is retained", and about which the Mendip Hills local plan states that "proposals requiring planning permission which would have an adverse effect on the landscape... will be resisted".

Not, it appears, by the Southern Area Planning Committee of Woodspring District Council but by this society, the Countryside Commission and many local residents — but who cares about them? What protection does the AONB designation give?

Yours faithfully,
VIC DENNISON
(Editor, Mendip Newsletter),
Heathercrest,
The Batch,
Churchill,
Bristol, Avon.
September 15.

Highway justice

From Mr John C. Long
Sir, Much attention has been given to the recent extension of fixed penalties for motorists as covered in your leader, "Highway justice" (September 11). A less obvious but equally significant move is that motorists who defend their cases will now have to carry the cost of both prosecution and defence legal expenses if they lose.

This is likely to resurrect the assertion that justice is only available for the rich or the increasingly diminishing members of our society qualifying for legal aid — which anyway is not usually available for motoring offences. The advent of legal protection insurance has made justice available to all who can

The Liberal tradition

From Dr Michael Bentley
Sir, Mr Jo Grimond's serene mangling of Liberal history (feature, September 24) is as charming as its author: it reads like a retrospective poem composed in the calm of Orkney. But he protests too much.

The Liberal Party cannot be expected "to translate its legacy into action" when it does not have a legacy to translate. Historians of British politics since the 1830s encounter numerous versions of "Liberalism's true values"; and it becomes manifest after a while that Liberals have never agreed about what they believe. Indeed the alumni among Mr Grimond's list of the great and the good most certainly would have damned the eyes of one another quite as positively as competing lights among the Eastbourne intelligentsia.

That shining world before 1914, when everybody knew what Liberals stood for, is a delightful invention of the legend — something that Liberals have always been good at.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BENTLEY,
University of Sheffield,
Department of History,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire.
September 24.

Streets ahead

From Mr Martin Knapp
Sir, Now that the editorial offices and presses of so many newspapers have a new location, how long will "Fleet Street" remain as a synonym for the Press?

What, if anything, will take its place?

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN KNAPP,
1 Brookland,
Ashington,
Totnes, Devon.

afford a modest annual premium.

Thus, an insured private or commercial driver can obtain full indemnity for his legal costs. Such cover extends to a full defence or, where appropriate, making a plea in mitigation which is especially valuable if disqualification is a possibility.

Such insurance has further relevance, especially at present in the light of calls for contingency fees and no-fault liability, presenting in our view a very worthy and equitable alternative to both.

Yours faithfully,
J. C. LONG, Managing Director,
Allianz Legal Protection Insurance Co Ltd,
Merchants House,
Wapping Road, Bristol, Avon.
September 17.

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Yours faithfully,
J. C. LONG, Managing Director,
Allianz Legal Protection Insurance Co Ltd,
Merchants House,
Wapping Road, Bristol, Avon.
September 17.

Identity crisis

From the Reverend Ian Gomersall
Sir, The Reverend Michael Kemp (September 16) need not worry about seeking an alternative to "spinster" when reading bans of marriage. Neither the *Book of Common Prayer* nor the *Alternative Service Book* require that the "condition" be stated. Nor is there a legal requirement for this usage.

Yours faithfully,
IAN GOMERSALL,
The Rectory, Cockfield,
Bishop Auckland, Co Durham.

Spoiled for choice?

From Dr R. M. Wright
Sir, According to your leading article (September 17) Professor Richard Estes downgrades Britain in his "league of paradise" because of "lack of political participation in Northern Ireland". This makes you smile: lack of participation? Rather like complaining about "the shortage of cars on the M4", what!

I have not read the report in question but if, as seems likely, Estes is referring to the lack in Northern Ireland of the only political participation that matters, the right to join and vote for the parties from which the Government of the State is drawn, then surely he has a point.

What you seem to regard as an *embarras de richesse*, the right to vote for competing shades of Unionism and nationalism, is to the many electors here who want to vote Conservative, or Labour, or Liberal or SDP, simply an embarrassment.

Yours faithfully,
R. M. WRIGHT,
71 Maryville Park,
Belfast.
September 17.

different section or proportion of the electorate to a Liberal candidate with SDP support.

Therefore, so long as the two parties remain in alliance, polls are likely to continue reporting them as though they represent one homogeneous group, although of course we disassemble them in our detailed analyses, sight of which is available to anyone on request.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT M. WORCESTER,
Chairman,
Market and Opinion Research International,
32 Old Queen Street, SW1.
September 25.

ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 29 1814

One cause of Britain's war with America, 1812-14, lay in the former forbidding neutral vessels to enter the ports of France with whom she was at war. America felt this to be a violation of her rights and on June 18, 1812, the President, James Madison, declared war. The British captured Washington on August 24, 1814 and burned all the public buildings. A peace treaty was signed at Ghent on December 24, 1814.

AMERICAN PAPERS.

CITY OF WASHINGTON DESTROYED.

NEW-YORK, Aug. 28.

This day we have the disagreeable task of recording the capture and destruction of the city of Washington, the capital of the United States. Six months ago, so one could have thought such an event could have possibly taken place. But this is the age of wonders! The city of Washington, containing valuable public buildings, which have cost the nation millions of money; a large naval arsenal, cannon foundry, &c. &c. — this city, situated at such a distance from the ocean, and only approachable with shipping by long, crooked, and narrow rivers, on a spot selected above all others as the most secure from foreign invasion; — who could have supposed that it could so easily have been destroyed by an enemy? Is it possible, that after being two years at war, our capital, the seat of our general Government, should have been left so defenceless? Can it be believed, that a small armament of a few ships, and from six to ten thousand troops, which came into our waters on the 17th instant, could demolish our capital on the 24th? But such is the fact. In less than one month, from the sailing of the expedition from Bermuda, the British General has fixed his headquarters in the heart of our nation, the seat of our Government. What shall we think of such things. Where have our men at the head of affairs been all this time? Why have they taken no measures to defend the capital? Were there no places on the Patuxent or the Potomac, which might have been fortified? Was there no man to be found to command the property of the nation? Can men who manage in this way be fit to govern a great and free people? Let their constituents answer.

We cannot close this article, without turning the attention of the public to our own situation. We are now erecting fortifications for the defence of our city; but where are the guns to mount in them? where are the men to man them? and who takes the charge of what few men we have under arms? How often does our Commander in Chief review them? These are serious questions to the citizens. Our fortifications will be worse than useless, unless they have guns in them, are well-manned, and the men are trained in the use of the guns.

THE BRITISH IN WASHINGTON.

The following further particulars are contained in a private letter from Baltimore, dated August 25: — "We are all here in a state of the utmost possible confusion, dismay and distress. The British, 15,000 strong, have landed in the Patuxent, marched to Washington, and last night blew up the Capitol, President's House, &c. and completely destroyed the navy yard. The 5th regiment, the flower of Baltimore, sustained the fury of the onset; but were soon, with all the associate troops, defeated and fled in every direction, after being miserably mangled. The wounded are hourly arriving here. The victorious army are in full march for this city, and will be here in 36 hours. There is at this moment, a contest between the civil and military powers, — the former are for sending a capitulating embassy, but the military men will not consent."

EXTRACT OF ANOTHER LETTER, SAME DATE

"In the midst of the confusion occasioned by the alarm in the city, and constant removal of property, I will give you the best information I can procure of the present situation of the troops. At half-past one o'clock yesterday, the advance corps of the British came in sight of Bladensburg. As they were crossing the bridge there, they were attacked by the 5th regiment, from Baltimore, who kept their ground until their ammunition was expended — when they received orders to disperse; and they are now singly dropping into the city. There was but little execution among them, as the object of the British was, evidently, to proceed to Washington without being delayed by fighting. It is understood they reached the city by sun-down, and immediately set to work blowing up the capital, and destroying the other public works. Indeed, as it is now understood, they have undisputed possession of the city. Where General Winde's army has retreated to, is not known. It is said that should the enemy come this way, the city will not make resistance."

Diminishing returns

From Mr Bruce Marshall
Sir, American friends of mine have booked a package tour that brings them to Britain on the QE2 and sends them home on Concorde.

Their tickets tell them that they are allowed six pieces of baggage each on the boat, one on the plane. Perhaps Oxford should have a reception centre at Southampton.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE MARSHALL,
4 Cleveland Square, W2.

THE ARTS

Television Chilling power of racism

Every good play about racism is also a play about activism, in which the characters wrestle with their consciences in full view of the audience. *Death Is Part of the Process* (BBC1) was a piece in this category. Based on the novel by Hilda Bernstein, which won the Sinclair prize in 1962, it concerned a fictional splinter-group of the African National Congress dedicated to attacking the symbols of apartheid in South Africa.

Art Malik, Jack Klaff and John Mankowitz headed the cast, playing a passionate Indian student, a cautious white lecturer and an irresponsible black bookshop assistant, all of whom combined their talents to mount a campaign of sabotage.

The action was set in Johannesburg in 1961, but filmed in Kenya. The costumes, sets and properties imparted an excellent sense of time and place which could have been more strongly reinforced in the dramatization by Alan Plater. This made a straightforward chronological narrative of the book's flash-back style. An element of suspense was introduced, but impeded by some of the monolithic pronouncements which studded the dialogue: "Everybody has a story - everybody", or "There are no innocent people".

While the white characters had arguments the black characters had anger; however, much of the injustice of apartheid was taken as read and not fully displayed. Only a chilling cameo by John Woodvine suggested the power of formalized racism against which the group was protesting.

Moral arguments in a different arena were kicked around in *Inside Story* (ITV), a new serial about a Fleet Street take-over which featured Roy Marsden as a coarse millionaire proprietor, anxious for control of a failing newspaper. Francesca Annis took the role of an intrepid foreign correspondent. She is apparently destined for the editor's chair in future episodes but regrettably spent half of this one in bed, on regrettably flimsy pretext, revealing an elegantly turned naked back.

Drama productions from Anglia Television often have a hopelessly inauthentic quality, which suits mannered British detective stories but did not enhance this production. Despite a credit for the *Sunday Times* columnist Henry Porter, and the involvement of the distinguished director Moya Armstrong, the entire production suffered severe credibility-loss by comparison with well reported actuality. In particular, sequences allegedly taking place in Beirut bore no relation to the coverage of recent events in the city.

Celia Brayfield

Theatre Double bill Donmar Warehouse

We value good comedians more for their personalities than for their material. Ben Keaton is a Dubliner who won a Perrier Fringe Award at this year's Edinburgh Festival, and his show, *Intimate Memoirs of an Irish Taxidermist*, deserves the praise it has received. Keaton is tall, thin and gangly, with a guileless, pleasant face across whose contours - he compares his profile to a wall-map of Ireland - mischief leaps and darts in nervous spasms. A lightness of touch, a nimble sophistication of timing and phrase, seems built into the Irish soul, and Keaton wows the audience with a stealthily deployed charm.

Keaton's best material is the most eccentric, and he is funniest when marvelling credulously at the infinite strangeness and incomprehensibility of the universe. He is an expert at deliberate confusions of mood, at starting a sketch in one spirit and wrenching it hilariously into quite another. At other moments, we laugh at him simply because he is behaving in that silly, capricious way from which most of us feel we have been banished by adulthood.

6 Artists at Sanderson

OCTOBER 2-OCTOBER 24

William Boyce, RA, RWS, RF, NEAC
Frederick Cuming, RA, NEAC
Edward Dawson, NEAC
John Hiscok
John Linnell, NEAC, ARCA
Timothy Scott Bolton

Sanderson, Berners Street, London W1
Monday to Saturday 9.30 - 5.30. Admission Free.

Operetta: Hilary Finch acclaims Jonathan Miller's new production of *The Mikado* at the Coliseum Debunking exhilaration

There may not be barrel-organs left in the streets of London to grind out Sullivan's hit numbers, but I have a shrewd suspicion that "The sun whose rays" and "Till willow" will soon be vying for space on the audio systems of the metropolis with show-stoppers from *Les Misérables* and *42nd Street*. Jonathan Miller's new production of *The Mikado* (in association with Houston Grand Opera and the Los Angeles Music Centre) has put the work back where it belongs: on its toes in the brightest footlights of musical theatre.

The applause starts the minute the curtain is raised. Knowing that one of the surest ways to an audience's heart is through its eyes, Miller's designer, Stefanos Lazaridis, wins them over to this entirely English 1920s *Mikado* in the wink of a bedazzled eye. The set is white with the total whiteness of Beverly Nichols's or Noël Coward's 1920s. A spacious hotel lounge with fountain, grand piano and parlour palm accommodates too the odd whimsical detail of Lazaridis-style surrealism: a monstrous wind-up gramophone and cocktail glass, a trombone hanging in a window, a suspended chair. White, all white.

Within a split second the space is awash with the first Busby Berkeley dance number, black on white as waiters and waitresses flutter around the "Gentlemen of Japan", each of whom could be a recognizably individual member of a

club not a million paces away from the Coliseum. Within a matter of minutes, or so it seems, there is a reprise, and a *tour de force* of a reprise at that. "Behold the Lord High Executioner", stunningly choreographed by Anthony van Laast, ends in a tense silence. He does not appear. So it starts all over again, just to make it worthwhile. And then Eric Idle bounces in, a Ko-Ko all set for routine, winning at the bellowed "Defer, defer" and nicely anticipating his role as the Lord of Grovel.

Any fears that stripping away the Japanese costume would leave Gilbert's satire uncomfortably naked, or that 1920s chic had just worn a little threadbare, are soon dispelled. By locating this *Mikado* among the wags and the fappers who so enjoyed staging the thing itself (think of *Charlot's Fire*), and by reintroducing the distancing effect of Gilbert's own debunkings (think of the very first tongue-in-cheek line), Miller does the trick. What is more, this audacious send-up within a send-up in a world of posing posers is animated by some of the most sophisticated timing and adroit routines G and S have probably ever known.

The "Wandering Minstrel" of Bonaventura Bottone's Nanki-Poo (a trombonist in blazer and boater) sets the camp little waiters off hopping away at the very mention of "a song of the sea" - with "a

Nancy on his knees" and all. Ko-Ko's little list (and he can sing, too) is predictably, but deliciously, updated to include "Muggers, jiggers, buggers, floggers" and "Girls that tell the stories of the Tories they have kissed". The *Mikado*'s punishments are, on the whole, not so simply enjoy the lovable gaucheness of Richard Angus's vast Oliver Hardy of a figure, who at this late point in the proceedings simply has to make his double-door entry larger than life.

The wonder is that so much falls into place so effortlessly, and, in doing so, has the effect of realigning the ear just at those points where any but the most avid G and S groupie is likely momentarily to switch off.

Under Peter Robinson's baton, the orchestral playing is appropriately cool. But it is no longer robust, it simply ripples with life: in the schoolgirl sequence, as feather dusters and lacrosse rackets flutter, and Yum-Yum (Lesley Garrett in gymnast) touches up the pompously pin-striped, monocled Pooh-bah (Richard Van Allan) and in the full-bodied arias of Katisha. Felicity Palmer, a steely and extravagantly clad vamp of a dive, sings them as straight as the operatic melodramas they mock. The shift of level works superbly well, and her wooing by and pas de deux with Eric Idle's Ko-Ko is the production's final seal of style.



The production's final seal of style: Felicity Palmer and Eric Idle, as Katisha and Ko-Ko, dance their pas de deux

Opera Back to lyrical nature

The Valkyrie
Covent Garden/
Radio 3

It is a considerable shock when the curtain goes up on Act I of Welsh National Opera's *The Valkyrie*. The vaguely Victorian railway arches of *The Ringgold* have been pushed aside. Instead, Hunding's hut is as "traditionally" depicted as any diarch conservative would wish: all brown and primitive, a massive oak within, and a picturesque snowstorm without. It is a fitting setting for Göran Jarvelfelt's unashamedly naturalistic and very sensitive staging of the Siegfried/Siegmond love-scenes, and for the most ardently lyrical singing we have yet heard in this Ring.

For that one must thank Kathryn Harries, a Siegfried with a wonderfully velvety tonal quality, surprising power and natural command of vocal and physical expression; and Warren Ellis-worth (Siegmond) who, if less securely in control of his timbre and sometimes inclined to over-sing, produced excellent incisive tone and especially in his stubborn Act II dialogue with Brunnhilde, a dark, baritone-like middle register that added dignity and tragic stature.

This Siegfried was initially clumsy and self-conscious in a woman's company: one of this act's joys was watching the character grow in tenderness and concern. He had an excellent foil in John Tranter's mean and menacing Hunding. When he grasped Siegfried's wrist, one could tell from the gravel in the voice how painful the grip was. Similarly brutal was his killing of Siegfmond: one of Jarvelfelt's livelier pieces of action.

Acts II and III returned to the familiar stage shapes of *Ringgold*, suitably chipped and weathered. But although we could now admire Penelope Walker's determined and shrewish Fricka and the early flourishes of what will surely be a memorable Brunnhilde from Anne Evans - whose singing was often thrilling and never shrill, though there were, signs of fatigue in the latter stages - Jarvelfelt's touch seemed less certain.

The incongruous hotch-pot of costumes did not help, but one other problem was Philip Joll's rather undemonstrative Wotan. Joll is singing well: the reconciliation with Brunnhilde (which was beautifully staged) elicited some especially rich, feeling-tone. But his gestures somehow seem tame, and he has to make some particularly unprepossessing entrances. Even in Act III, at the height of his anger, he appears to side on.

Richard Armstrong's conducting was much more gripping here than in *Ringgold*, particularly in the glorious love music, and he did well to hush the orchestra enough to give some of the weaker-voiced Valkyries a chance. It was a pity that the "Ride of the Valkyries" did not find these hard-working, dependable players at their best, but the sight of the armour-clad maidens, looking as if they had drifted in off Horse Guards Parade and waving like maniacs at something in the upper circle, was hardly inspiring either.

David Sinclair

Richard Morrison

Rock Chris de Burgh Wembley Arena

When the editorial staff of *Melody Maker* recently devised an hilarious lampoon of the new music and arts magazine *Q*, they sought a star to feature on their "cover" who would strike an immediate chord of antipathy with that minority of rock fans serious enough to buy a music paper. A picture of the beaming Chris de Burgh fitted the bill exactly.

Seeing his show, it was not hard to understand why the hugely popular de Burgh holds such a singularly unfavourable position. Drab, dressed, he steered his five-piece band through an exemplary exposition of the way in which the sounds and language of rock have now become assimilated into the broad sweep of mainstream light entertainment. Some of the earlier, acoustic guitar songs were genuinely pleasant on the ear, but for the most part loud guitar solos, modern synthesizer technology, drum-machines and a stiff rock beat were utilized with bland efficiency.

de Burgh started his career singing to guests at the hotel his parents owned in Ireland, and such a background evidently encouraged him to develop both an accurate, strong voice and a lounge-bar performer's knack for keeping all of the punters happy for at least some of the time. The Duke and Duchess of York were in this particular audience and de Burgh's dedication to a Country Churchyard to all recently married young couples was larded with schmaltz. Just as well he did not muddle his introductions, for the very next song was about a stripper called Patricia whose routine was satirically described.

"The Lady in Red" was dispatched with uncanny accuracy, and the show built to a noisy climax with flashing lights and a smoke-screen that maintained a visual dimension redolent of soft-focus film effect.

David Sinclair

Richard Morrison

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The exuberant fourth volume of autobiography by Maya Angelou (right), *The Heart of a Woman*, has recently been published in Britain: interview by Cressida Connolly



Celebrations of friendship

"The terrible things." "It's very hard to write melodrama. It's too close to purple prose." She recounts the incident of the minimalist sculptor with obvious relish and then grows thoughtful. "Sympathy is one thing, and it's wonderful. It's one of the reasons we are alive, and it elevates the intellect as well as the spirit. But to pity anyone is to have it over them. I married a man in West Africa who was royalty, and his family motto was 'Royalty does not weep in the street', and I understood that at once, because my grandmother used to say to me 'Sister, you may cry if you want to - but the more you cry the less you will see, and

seeing is much more important". Angelou's grandmother is the central character of her first book of autobiography, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, and has been a lasting influence. It was to this grandmother that she was sent to live at the age of three and to whom she returned when, at seven, she was raped by her mother's lover. The experience left her mute for the next five years. That she should have been unable to speak for so long seems ironic, for Angelou is a woman who uses her voice to the full. It is a deep and resonant voice, frequently turning to bursts of laughter and, in our interview, song. There were two bus-

inessmen in the lounge of the sedate Knightsbridge hotel where we met early one morning, her lengthy and heartfelt performance of an old country and western song must have been an unusual start to their working day.

The vividness of her memory she ascribes to those years of silence, when she learnt by heart the words of the black poets, Shakespeare and Poe. And listened: "I used to think of myself sometimes as an ear", she remembers, just absorbing all the sounds. The freshness of the dialogue throughout her work bears witness to this capacity for hearing; she has never kept a diary. Her inability to communicate was eventually overcome, thanks to a local lady who encouraged her to recite favourite passages from literature. And to the obdurate hope of her grandmother: "Momma used to say, when she'd braid my hair, 'Momma don't care what these people say about you being a moron. Momma know, when you and the good Lord get ready, you gonna be a preacher'".

Despite her almost total recall she does not find writing easy. "Hawthorne's statement that easy reading is damned hard writing is right on time. I've had some critics who say 'Well, Maya Angelou has a new book out, and of course it's very good. But then she's a natural writer'. Natural writer! That's like being a natural brain surgeon." She has, nevertheless, produced five volumes of autobiography and is quick to defend the form. "It's long been thought that autobiography is not literature, but just a factual account. I love the form, and

I'm trying to look at it and help it to grow."

Her most recent book, *All God's Children Need Traveling Shoes*, will be published here next year. The book goes up to 1968, and describes her years in Ghana as editor of *African Review*. She admits that the work is her favourite - "The last one always is" - and is just as pleased with its title. "It's great, isn't it? And so true. Just when you think you've got it all, a man, kids, a house, a job, life offers you a ticket to Bangladesh and makes you pay the fare." Life seems to offer Angelou more tickets than most. She has recently revisited Ghana, and is going on to Liberia after her stay in England. And all this when her own travelling shoes are beige slingshots with three-inch heels.

She has not planned a sequel. "I might try fiction. Anything to keep me from writing the next." Two days after the story of *Traveling Shoes* ends Martin Luther King was killed. "On my birthday, just after I'd agreed to go back to work for him. Malcolm X was killed. It was a bad time." She brightens. "Anyway, I've got a new book of poetry coming out in the spring." She has her teaching work at a university in North Carolina, and a grandson, Colin. "Just like his father, rumbustious and funny," she says, with evident pride. She also has an unquenchable spirit. "I'm aware that yours may be the last face I'll see on this earth. That's why I bring all of myself to whatever I do, whoever I meet." She grins. "Because life loves those who live it."

David Sinclair

Richard Morrison

Concerts RPO/Previn Festival Hall

With this performance of Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto - a reading that flew and sometimes even fizzed - Viktoria Mullova went some way towards modifying her reputation as the ice-maiden of the fiddle-playing world. The reputation was, in any case, partly created because Mullova did not fit the American public's preconceived notions of what a newly-emigrated Russian violinist should sound like.

Certainly she delivered much of the finale's passagework with such enormous technical control that it could be mistaken for emotional neutrality, simply because the mercurial fingerwork was so precise, and the bowing so evenly weighted. But in the first movement one can now detect a less inhibited rubato beginning to thaw her playing of the big lyrical moments, and there is a more characterful stamp to her articulation of the dotted rhythms at the outset.

One should not underestimate André Previn's influence on Mullova. He tied in the orchestral accompaniments expertly, and his arch-Romantic inclinations must have encouraged her burgeoning individuality. But Previn had nothing to do with Mullova's delightful tone, revealed particularly in the Canzonette: it gives the illusion of being a seamless continuation of G-string timbre, up into the highest register.

This opening concert in the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra's Festival Hall season, apparently known more formally as the "NEC Previn International Series", found Mr NEC Previn in top form. Starting with Rossini's *L'italiana in Algeri* overture was perhaps not too clever, given the unsettled sound of the current RPO flute section.

But finishing with Rachmaninov's second symphony, one of Previn's most lustrious party-pieces, was an inspired decision.

The omens were good from the Largo beginning where Previn, with the minimum of fuss, gathered the arching string phrases into a sumptuous climax. To delineate, meticulously, the brooding baritone-register passages of this movement is not really his style - he prefers to concentrate on the broad sweep, and the opulent tutti, and the RPO responded with great gle.

In the scherzo the changes of pace and texture were relished for their abruptness, and the violins lavished such flamboyant portamenti on the suave melody in the middle that one was slightly anxious about what they would do to the Adagio's fruity opening. But in fact they played it with impeccable cleanliness, and the way for Prudence Whitaker's beautifully languid clarinet solo. After that Previn, like the MGM maestro he once was, unfolded the orgy of schmaltz to perfection.

Richard Morrison

ECO/Davis Elizabeth Hall

It seems a long time since we heard Sir Colin Davis and Mozart in a small concert hall. Perhaps, Tate and Uchida have been putting the English Chamber Orchestra through their Mozartian paces, and the time was ripe for them to be taken in hand by Sir Colin.

A little Mozart, the one in C major which Mozart perhaps wrote for the K338 Symphony, set out the Davis manifesto: that characteristic trampoline spring, from ankle and baton, and the first beat whose energy is always driven onwards rather than downwards. This, and the wonderfully vocal sense of live, long-arching phrasing, is vintage

David Sinclair

David Sinclair

David Sinclair

Richard Morrison

David Sinclair

David Sinclair

David Sinclair

Richard Morrison

Hilary Finch St John's

There was a bewilderingly wide range of styles on offer in this Range for the Promotion of New Music concert given, generally excellently, by Gregory Rose's group Circle. One of the most extreme was the

David Sinclair

David Sinclair

Richard Morrison

RUC officer carries bomb to safe area

From Our Correspondent, Belfast

An Ulster policeman carried a live 40 lb bomb nearly 100 yards to open ground early yesterday after deciding there was no time to evacuate sleeping residents from houses surrounding the terrorists' target, a Downing Park bar.

The explosion which followed was one of two in County Down in the early hours of yesterday.

An RUC spokesman described the policeman's action as an act of outstanding bravery which undoubtedly saved local people from death or serious injury. He was the commander of a patrol which found the bomb in a holdall outside a bar. There had been a warning telephone call.

The policeman threw the bomb over a thick hedge into an open field where it exploded 15 minutes later, leaving a large crater.

A short time later police waved down a three-car convoy at nearby Drummanagh. A Ford Fiesta and a VW Polo stopped but the third car raced through the checkpoint with police firing after it. It was found four miles away with a shredded rear tyre. Nearby a 40lb bomb thrown on to the roadside, it was made safe by the Army.

Meanwhile, police had

discovered yet another bomb in the halled Fiesta. They evacuated the area and as the Army prepared to deal with it at about 5am the car was torn apart by a powerful explosion.

Three men and a woman who were in the two cars stopped at the checkpoint were arrested and were being questioned by police yesterday as a search continued for two people who abandoned the other car and ran off.

The Irish National Liberation Army later claimed responsibility for the bombs, saying the Welshman's Bar was attacked because it was much used by off duty members of the security forces.

A caller also said the two men driving the third car had escaped.

The RUC yesterday named a young regular constable who was killed at Pomeroy police station in County Tyrone on Saturday in an accidental shooting.

He was Constable Neil Gillis, aged 23, a bachelor from Drummanagh near Belfast. A spokesman said he died when a police weapon was accidentally discharged in the station.

Mortgage loan concern

Continued from page 1

mortgage arrears, representing 5 per cent of the mortgage-paying public."

Mr Jeremy Withers Green, a construction analyst at Alexander's Laing and Cruickshank, a firm of stockbrokers, said: "If building societies had been quoted on the Stock Exchange during 1986, their share prices could well have been depressed due to concern over the amount being lent in outstripping the inflow of funds."

Opposition parties have been considering policies designed to help the increasing number of first-time buyers in

difficulty, but all admitted that they saw no obvious way of intervening in the market.

An inquiry chaired by the Duke of Edinburgh last year recommended phased abolition of mortgage tax relief in favour of a more equitable system, which was rejected by all political parties.

Mr John Patten, Minister for Housing, Urban Affairs and Construction, told *The Times*: "A large number of people have a substantial interest in maintaining the present system. I foresee no downturn in house prices. If the current boom follows the pattern of the booms of the 1970s, prices will continue to rise, but at a slower rate."



Boaters off (front to back): Mr Dick, Mr Fulbrook, Mr Morden and Mr Maleczek, at Strand on the Green, west London.

Four men in a punt paddle for sweet charity

Four intrepid young men have raised more than £3,000 for charity by following in the steps of Jerome K Jerome's *Three Men in a Boat*. Peter Fulbrook, Andrew

Dick, Simon Morden and Eugene Maleczek set off in Victorian rig to paddle from Oxford to London to raise money for an adventure playground in Ealing, west Lon-

don. The 100-mile trip took five days to complete and the money raised will enable the playground to extend its outdoor activities. Photograph: Leslie Lee

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Prince of Wales dines with Agricultural Ministers of the European Community, Belfast Hotel, Bowness-on-Windermere, Cumbria, 8.15.
Princess Margaret attends the 1986 Wavendon Allmusic Awards and Charity Gala concert in aid of the Wavendon Allmusic Plan and other charities, Barbican Hall, EC2, 7.15.
Prince Michael of Kent, Patron of the Wahiba Sands Project, attends a lecture and dinner, Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, SW7, 6.
Princess Alexandra names the new lifeboat for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, Tenby, Dyfed, 3.10.

New exhibitions

Paintings by Bruno Guarnaschelli and Bill Thomson: Phoenix Gallery, Lavenham, Suffolk; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 6, Sun 2 to 6 (ends Oct 20).
Work by Georges Rouault: small loan exhibition from British Collections, Norwich School of Art Gallery, St Georges St, Norwich; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Nov 1).
Exhibitions in progress
Ruskin in Venice: works from the Collection of the Guild of St George, The Ruskin Gallery, 101 Norfolk St, Sheffield; Mon to Fri 10 to 7.30, Sat 10 to 5 (ends Nov 29).
The Flower Show: flowers in twentieth century British art; City Art Gallery, Exhibition Sq., York; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 5 (ends Oct 26).
The Flower Show: contemporary flower paintings held in conjunction with the York City Art Gallery exhibition; Grape Lane Gallery, 17 Grape Lane, Low Petergate, York; Tue to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Oct 25).
Recent paintings by Ian Humphreys: The Black Boy Gallery, 14 High St, West Wycombe, Bucks; Mon to Sat 9.30 to 5.30 (ends Oct 8).
Mannerist Masterpiece: the work of Alessandro Veronese, Brigade, James Dunn's House, Schoolhill, Aberdeen; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Nov 22).
Oil paintings and watercolours by Olive Walker and Richard Slater: Dover House Gallery, 108 St John's St, Berkhampstead; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Wed and Sat (ends Oct 24).
Through a Lens Darkly: photographic work by David Hockney and David Newman; The Arts Centre, Bampton, Oxon; Tues, Thurs, Fri and Sat 10.30 to 1 and 2.30 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 4.30 (ends Oct 19).
Masquerade: The Art of the Carnival; Grosvenor Art Gallery, Surrey St, Sheffield; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Nov 2).
MA Ceramics Degree exhibition: Howard Gardens Gallery, Cardiff; Mon to Thurs 9 to 5.30, Fri 9 to 5 (ends Oct 3).
21 Artists: sculpture, drawings and prints by Jeff Dixon; Huddersfield Art Gallery, Princess Alexandra Walk, Huddersfield; Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4 (ends Oct 18).
Work by Alistair Crawford: Little Art Gallery, Station Rd, Milngavie, Glasgow; Tues to Fri 10 to 5 and 7 to 9, Sat and Sun 2 to 5 (ends Oct 18).
Last chance to see
David Shilling: The Hays, Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum, The King's House, 65 The Close, Salisbury, 10 to 5.
21 Artists: Easton Rooms, 107 High St, Ryde, E Sussex; 10.30 to 1 and 2.30 to 5.
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BUSINESS AND FINANCE

THE TIMES

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 29 1986

SPORT 27

TELEVISION AND RADIO 31

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET
(Change on week)

FT 30 Share
1238.4 (-30.7)

FT-SE 100
1568.6 (-31.8)

Bergains
21638

USM (Datastream)
122.24 (-1.96)

THE POUND
(Change on week)

US Dollar
1.4380 (-0.0385)

W German mark
2.9429 (-0.0057)

Trade-weighted
68.7 (-0.9)

Extel is likely to be 'white knight'

By Our City Editor

Extel, the printing, news agency and publishing group, is expected to emerge later this week as a "white knight" in the £146 million takeover bid for banknote printer, McCordale.

On Friday, McCordale indicated that it was in talks with a third party which might lead to a higher offer than the current one from rival printer Norton Opax. But McCordale's chief executive Mr John Holloran refused to identify the company concerned.

Mr Alan Brooker, Extel's chairman and chief executive, would neither confirm nor deny weekend speculation that preliminary discussions had already taken place with McCordale. "I am simply refusing to make any comment whatsoever," he said yesterday.

Mr Richard Hanwell, chief executive of Yorkshire-based specialist printer Norton Opax, would not be drawn yesterday on the likely intervention of Extel. "We have a number of thoughts about Extel, but I would prefer not to comment specifically until Extel confirms its involvement," he said.

The emergence of a white knight has significantly improved chances that McCordale will escape the clutches of fast growing Norton Opax, whose original £110 million offer was referred to the Monopolies Commission in April.

Norton Opax, was given the go-ahead to renew its offer for McCordale last week. Within 24 hours fresh terms were on the table - this time a two for one share swap which at Friday's closing prices, values each McCordale share at 280p.

Before news of the possible white knight, Norton and its financial advisers were able to purchase sizeable blocks of McCordale shares at prices around 260p, the level of the cash alternative, taking its stake to almost 13 per cent.

Since then, the market price climbed above the level of the cash offer, which prevents Norton Opax from further purchases. The price is unlikely to fall until dealers are told whether Extel and McCordale can reach agreement about a merger of their businesses and on what terms.

On Friday, before Extel's name became linked with the white knight role, McCordale's Holloran said that any future partner would have to bring quality businesses to the combination and offer some probability of synergy between the activities of the two groups. Extel's operations in security printing, financial and sporting information services, plus Benn Brothers publishing activities will be seen by the City as largely complementary provided agreement can be reached on the terms of a deal.

Industrial pay rises lowest in three years

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Pay rises in manufacturing industry have fallen to their lowest level for three years, the employers' organization, the Confederation of British Industry, said today. But at 5.5 per cent they remain at least twice as high as the Government and industry say is necessary to prevent the wrecking of industrial competitiveness.

The latest results of the CBI's pay data bank, covering the three months to the end of September, show some first tentative signs that wage increases are coming down, after the average of 6.5 per cent rises recorded since the end of 1984. Settlements were last at the 5.5 per cent level in the middle six months of 1983.

But neither ministers nor CBI leaders will regard the reduction in the average level of pay settlements as much use unless it continues to accelerate downwards quickly. More jobs are under threat while pay rises are high, industrialists say.

The Government is still seeking over this month's 6.7 per cent (£6 a week) offer to local authority manual workers which Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Paymaster General and

Employment Minister, described as "irresponsible and reckless". He called for an end to "Mickey Mouse" pay deals that were not justified by increased productivity.

And Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, has warned that unless pay rises are halved in the coming year he will not be able to achieve the Government's aim of cutting income tax to 25 per cent.

Sir Terence Beckett, the CBI director general, said today that the latest slide in pay rises was, if confirmed later, a clear step in the right direction. "But we shall have to do much more before we can start competing on level terms with our major overseas rivals," he said.

"We need to continue to strive for greatly reduced pay settlements. Indeed, with the cost of living virtually static, companies must seriously question the need for annual pay awards."

Pay has now usurped interest rates as the CBI's bete noir. Ideally, business leaders would like to see no pay rises in the coming year and CBI members have been pressed to work towards abolition of the yearly pay round.

The CBI underlined its concern today by recording Britain's "bleak" position in the international labour cost competitiveness league. Costs in Britain have risen by 7.5 per cent in the last 12 months against 5.5 per cent in Japan, 4.7 per cent in West Germany, 2.5 per cent in France and 1.2 per cent in the United States.

Sir Terence said that only pay increases fully justified by productivity gains should be awarded. "We must put performance first. Many of our major competitors have been doing this successfully for years, and this approach needs to be adopted here if we are not to lose more jobs."

The range of pay settlements remains wide, with one in four falling between 4.5 per cent and 5.5 per cent in the past six months. A further 19 per cent were between 6.5 per cent and 7.5 per cent and only 1.1 per cent were above 10.5 per cent. Inability to raise prices remains the most important downward pressure on settlements.

Cuts in the working week remained low, with only 3 per cent of deals in manufacturing incorporating a reduction in the past year.



£5.5bn chases TSB

When the number crunching was over the TSB share offer attracted more than twice as many applicants as British Telecom - dubbed "the people's share."

Perhaps it was the TSB's own billing as the steal of the century that brought almost 5 million applications for shares (writes Lawrence Lever).

The overwhelming response has delayed the first day of dealings by two days to October 10.

The picture above shows two TSB officials storing

share applications at the Midland Bank's, Chiswell St Branch in the City. They are Mr Gordon Sturrock (left) a TSB security officer and Mr Martin Hollier, head of new issues, pile crates of applications head high.

Share applications worth £5.5 billion were sent in, making the offer seven times oversubscribed. The TSB will initially have 3 million shareholders.

Two million share applicants have been left out in the cold.

New gilts market to have second dry run

By Richard Thomson

Another dress rehearsal for the new gilts market is to be held on October 18, a week before the market opens. The first rehearsal, last Saturday went smoothly, the Bank of England said over the weekend.

None of the participants reported breakdowns in the system, though minor problems had emerged, which would need correcting before the market opens on October 27.

The rehearsal included the 27 new market-makers, the interdealer brokers, the Bank of England and the Central Gilts Office, where inter-market deals are processed.

The next rehearsal will be a bigger test for the dealers' processing systems, because it will include a trial run for the equity markets.

The practice dealing session on Saturday morning was "very successful," the Bank said.

Mr Ken Sinclair, head of the Barclays de Zoete Wedd gilts team, said: "We discovered a number of things that needed to be put right."

"They tended to be the smaller things, often caused by people's unfamiliarity with the technology. Without the equity market as well, the systems were not fully tested."

There has been concern among the 27 new market-makers that some will not be deemed ready by the Bank to join the market.

The IMF's balance of payments prediction for Britain is particularly embarrassing for the Treasury, which has been insisting that the underlying current account position remains strong, despite a run of gloomy trade figures.

IMF projections are for a current account deficit of \$1.3 billion (£900 million) next year, after a surplus of \$2.3 billion this year. This would be the first full-year balance of payments deficit since 1979.

Growth in the industrial countries is expected to average 3.1 per cent next year, after 2.7 per cent growth this year. But Britain is expected to grow at a rate of only 2.5 per cent, after 2.4 per cent this year.

The IMF forecasters do not believe West Germany claims of a strong upturn in the economy next year. Growth is

Pressure builds for increase in base rates

From Bailey Morris and David Smith, Washington

Pressure for a politically damaging rise in base rates will intensify this week, after the failure of the leading industrialized countries to agree new initiatives to hold exchange rates steady.

The consensus was that, in the absence of concrete new measures, there is nothing to stop the dollar's slide resuming, and the pound's fall continuing.

At their meeting on Saturday, the seven leading industrialized countries - the US, Britain, West Germany, Japan, France, Canada and Italy - agreed to focus on the medium-term task of achieving growth and stability for the world economy, partly through the reduction of large payments imbalances.

The Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, said yesterday: "The last few days have seen an almost unhealthy preoccupation, in the markets and the Press, with very short-term concerns. It is time to revert to a longer perspective."

But Mr Lawson's attempt to steer the speculators away from sterling looks doomed to failure. The foreign exchange markets had been waiting for the outcome of the weekend meetings and, because they contained nothing new, seem certain to resume their attack, both on the dollar and the pound.

British officials at the meetings here said the Chancellor had not come to Washington in the expectation of a deal to prop up sterling.

The key to the weekend meetings was West Germany's determination to remove the question of interest rate cuts by the Bundesbank from the international arena. The finance minister, Herr Gerhard Stolteberg, appears to have persuaded the US Treasury Secretary, Mr James Baker, that public statements on the need for lower rates in West Germany are counter-productive.

Mr Lawson faces a difficult task. If the pound's slide continues, then this would threaten to send inflation higher in the run-up to the General Election.

But if he acts by pushing up rates - and some City economists argue that a two-point increase from the present 10 per cent level could be needed - the timing could hardly be worse with the approach of the Conservative Party conference and the British Gas flotation in November.

The bland statement issued by the Group of Seven countries late on Saturday hardly concealed the big policy differences which remain between the US and Europe.

Full statement, page 22

IMF forecasts UK deficit of £900m

The International Monetary Fund sees only a modest upturn in world growth next year and is gloomy about prospects for Britain. Its latest *World Economic Outlook*, published in Washington yesterday, sees growth in Britain remaining sluggish and a shift into deficit on the balance of payments.

The IMF's balance of payments prediction for Britain is particularly embarrassing for the Treasury, which has been insisting that the underlying current account position remains strong, despite a run of gloomy trade figures.

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Growth in the industrial countries is expected to average 3.1 per cent next year, after 2.7 per cent growth this year. But Britain is expected to grow at a rate of only 2.5 per cent, after 2.4 per cent this year.

The IMF forecasters do not believe West Germany claims of a strong upturn in the economy next year. Growth is

expected to continue at the same 3 per cent pace as this year. But a pick-up, from 2.7 to 3.5 per cent, is expected in the US.

Part of the difference between US and West German growth rates next year comes from the expectation that there will be no widening of the US current account deficit - it is forecast to be \$123 billion both this year and next while the West German surplus declines from \$30.8 billion to \$25.5 billion. The Japanese surplus is also forecast to decline modestly, from \$82.7 billion to \$74.1 billion.

Inflation in the industrial countries is expected to edge down from 3.3 to 3.1 per cent, on average. In Britain, the rate is forecast at 3.7 per cent next year, from 3.8 per cent.

The IMF expects the biggest payments imbalances to continue. "While the exchange rate changes that have taken place in the last 18 months have succeeded in arresting earlier unsustainable trends in external positions," the reports say, "they will not be sufficient by themselves to restore a fully viable pattern of payments balances in the three largest countries."

City dubious over Labour's plan for investment bank

By John Bell, City Editor

The Labour Party's plans for a new National Investment Bank funded by the forced repatriation of overseas investments could have a damaging effect on overseas investment in Britain, according to a study prepared by the Stock Exchange.

There are severe doubts in the financial and business communities as to the need for such a new body.

Compulsory investment in NIB stock is likely to divert funds away from the gilt market into equities.

Labour's proposals could cause major problems of compliance for managers of some unit trusts and investment trusts with internationally oriented portfolios.

If implemented, the Labour plans would initially drive up equity prices and depress yields. Thereafter the result is likely to be bearish for share prices.

These are the most important findings of the Stock Exchange study of opposition party plans for the City and their possible effects.

Though Labour's policy-makers have not yet disclosed the extent to which overseas investments held by British

based institutions will be forcibly repatriated, party documents have used assumptions that no more than five per cent of portfolios will be allowed to remain invested abroad.

This could mean that more than £30 billion would have to be returned to Britain, the Stock Exchange suggests.

If institutions are to retain existing tax and other advantages, part of this inflow would be compulsorily invested in the National Investment Bank's loan stock. Those institutions would probably decrease their purchases of government stock by a corresponding amount, the study concludes.

Thus, the principal effect of repatriation would be an exchange of overseas equity holdings for domestic ones.

Distortions would be created in the stock market as institutions sought to preserve their international exposure by buying shares in multi-nationals and exporting companies.

"In addition to reducing UK equity yields, the capital inflows can be expected to depress UK interest rates. These two factors are likely to

combine with concern over the direction of Government policy to discourage overseas investment in the UK market in the event of a Labour administration," the study says.

It takes the view also that London's position as a financial centre may suffer as a result of the policies proposed by Labour - "The reduced attractiveness of the UK to foreign investors and companies could be detrimental."

The most damaging conclusion in the 44 pages is that there are severe doubts as to the need for a state-sponsored investment bank.

The conditions attaching to NIB finance could themselves act as a disincentive to those who might otherwise seek funds from the bank. These strings will probably include the requirement to draw up a business plan acceptable not just to management but also to the Government and workforce.

Matters such as levels of employment, profit and cash flow forecasts as well as information on research would have to be disclosed to union representatives.

Accountants prepare for new standard

The Accounting Standards Committee of the combined accountancy bodies will today launch the publication of a booklet - "Accounting for the effects of changing prices" - which offers a basis for discussion about the formulation of a new current cost accounting standard.

The existing standard, SSAP16, has fallen out of favour and in April the ASC recommended its withdrawal.

The need for a new standard has seemed less urgent since the rate of inflation fell below 2.5 per cent. However, should high rates of inflation return, the accountancy bodies want a standard in place.

The new booklet is far more comprehensive than anything so far issued by the accounting profession. Details, page 18

Channel Tunnel should make £154m in first year

By Lawrence Lever

Modest rates of interest and inflation underpin the financial projections for the Channel Tunnel, according to the pathfinder prospectus published today. The prospectus paves the way for a £200 million private placing to raise the second tranche of equity for the project.

The prospectus, which cautions that investment in the project "should be regarded at this stage as speculative," assumes a base rate of 9 per cent for the financial projections.

These projections - which estimate a profit of £154 million in the first year the Channel Tunnel becomes operational - also assume that the project's costs and revenues will be increased by between 3.5 and 6 per cent as a result of inflation.

Eurotunnel, the Anglo-French consortium chosen to implement the Channel Tunnel project, has estimated that its interest and financing costs will come to just over £1 billion.

The prospectus also makes it clear that the banks, which have agreed in principle to provide £5 billion in loans and standby facilities, do not regard themselves as under any legal responsibility to fulfil their commitments.

China turns back the clock with its first SE since 1949

From Robert Gries, Peking

Months of speculation ended on Friday when China opened its Shanghai first Stock Exchange since 1949.

The move caught many Western observers by surprise. In the last year some Western and Chinese analysts had predicted a Stock Market would open soon in the southern commercial center of Canton, near Hong Kong. Other observers believed such a market was years away.

Articles in the official Chinese press and in Chinese journals had debated the merits of a Chinese stock market for some time.

For some, the opening of the new exchange meant nostalgia for the days when Shanghai was one of Asia's premier financial centers.

The tension and the atmosphere remind one of the

old Stock Exchange, a veteran Chinese financier told *People's Daily*.

The opening of the new exchange comes in the wake of several economic milestones in the country's development - China's first bankruptcy since the Communist revolution, experiments with a nationwide bond market and the introduction of an inter-bank lending system.

On Friday hundreds of people lined up early at the front gate of the Jingshan branch of Shanghai's industrial and commercial bank to buy the stocks of two companies, the Yangtze Industrial Corporation and Fei Acoustics Corporation.

The shares, with a face value of 50 yuan (£2.24) each, were sold at 54 yuan (£10) a Yangtze share and 55.6

US move into Grand Met

One major source of the recent heavy buying of shares in Grand Metropolitan Hotels has declared his hand.

Mr Charles Knapp, the American financier, confirmed at the weekend that he has built up a stake of nearly 5 per cent.

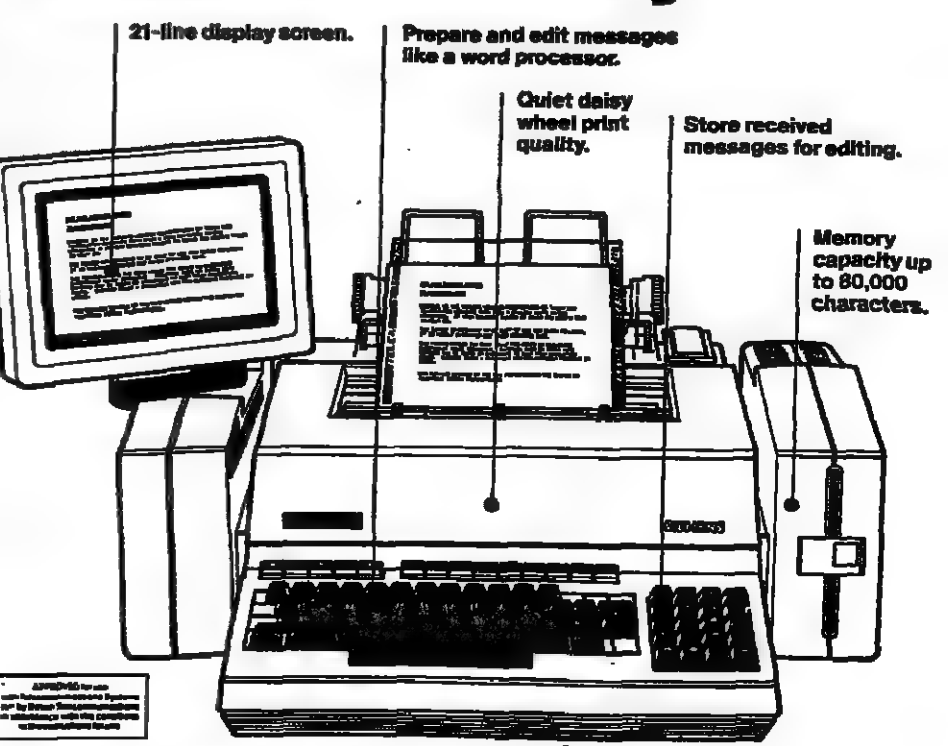
He has twice approached Sir Stanley Gristead, chairman of Grand Metropolitan, with a view to buying the group's hotel interests. But despite Knapp's offer of up to \$900 million in cash (£624.9 million), Grand Metropolitan has been unwilling to begin serious discussions.

Grand Met shares were among the most heavily traded last week, amid speculation of moves to buy and break up the group.

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TODAY - Interims: Asda Property Holdings, Brodero Properties, Bronx Engineering, Early's of Witney, Inchcape, George, Kwik-Fit (Tyres & Exhausts), John Menzies, Rugby Portland Cement, Stag Furniture, United Friendly Insurance, Frank Usher, Watts, Blake, Bearne, Rex Williams Leisure, Wills Group, Finals: A B Electronic Products, C H Bailey, Dutton Group, FFI Group, Lyssander Petroleum, R H Morley, Process Systems. **TOMORROW** - Interims: Amari, Arbutnot Dollar Income Trust, Arbutnot Japan Growth Fund, Laura Ashley, Biomechanics International, Cussins Property Group, Davidson Pearce Group, Denora, Falcon Industries, Jacques Vert, KCA Drilling Group, Laing Properties, Northern Engineering Industries, Polymark International, Thurgar Bardex (amended), Worcester Group. **Finals:** Baillie Gifford Japan Trust, Framlington Managed Portfolio (dividend), Shandwick, Thorgorston Secured Growth Trust. **WEDNESDAY** - Interims: BSG International, Fosco Minsep, Kleinwort, Benson (Guernsey), MY Holdings, TR City of London Trust. **Finals:** Abingworth, A Beckman, Kleinwort Development Fund, Synapac Computer Services. **THURSDAY** - Interims: Brown & Jackson, Ealing Electro-Optics, Empire Stores (Bradford), Erith, Elm, Istock Johnson, Kalon Group, Lilleshall, Albert Martin Holdings, PLM. **Finals:** Galliford, S R Gent, HTV Group, Mitchell Cotts. **FRIDAY** - Interims: International Investment Trust of Jersey, Scottish Television. **Finals:** Lawrie, Ulster Television (dividend).

BOARD MEETINGS

Hutchison chief appeals against 'insider' ruling

From Stephen Leather, Hong Kong

One of Hong Kong's richest and most powerful businessmen goes into court today in a bid to clear his name.

Li Ka-shing — whose Hutchison Whampoa trading group is negotiating with Britain's Pearson Group over possible commercial links — was branded as an insider dealer by the Crown Colony's Insider Dealing Tribunal in April this year.

Insider dealing is not a criminal offence in Hong Kong, and no penalties are imposed.

All that happened when Li Ka-shing, chairman of Hutchison and the Cheung Kong trading group, and Mr George Magnus, his deputy chairman, and three other directors, Mr George Zang, Mr Albert Chow and Chow Chin-wo, were named as Hong Kong's first culpable insider dealers was that they suffered acute embarrassment.

Certainly the label of "insider trader" is a source of great shame for self-made



Li Ka-shing: Money is no object in clearing his name

billionaire Li Ka-shing, but his appearance in the Supreme Court today is more than just a matter of saving face. Before the end of the decade he wants at least one quarter of Hutchison's income to come from overseas — hence the talks with Pearson.

The last thing he wants is to be thought of in the City and Wall Street as the first man in Hong Kong to be named as an insider dealer.

Therefore he is prepared to

pay whatever price is necessary to clear his name and has flown over three of Britain's top QCs who hope to persuade a judge to set aside the tribunal's findings. If they do not win in the hearing, they will take the battle to the Court of Appeal.

The insider dealing controversy surfaced over the sale early in 1984 of 55 million shares in a company called International City Holdings which were sold by a Cheung Kong subsidiary named Starpeace.

International City Holdings had set up a HK\$900 million (£78 million) property deal with a China-funded company called Ever Bright Industrial which contained a six-month escape clause which only the companies involved — and Cheung Kong — knew about.

The deal went sour and Ever Bright pulled out. This was a big blow to confidence in Hong Kong and the International City share price slumped. But not before the Cheung Kong subsidiary had sold International City shares worth HK\$39 million.

A seat on the board spurs US soccer fan

By Cliff Feltham

Peace has broken out between the American football fan who owns a big slice of Tottenham Hotspur, the only club listed on the Stock Exchange, and the board which has been keeping a wary eye on his attacking moves.

Mr Irving Brown, who left England to make a fortune in property in the US, is flying into London at the invitation of the club directors to watch the match against Luton on Saturday.

Mr Brown, who owns 14 per cent of the club's shares, is hoping for a win to compensate for what is expected to be a less-than-happy day when Tottenham announces its financial results for the year.

"I think they will have lost money," Mr Brown said. "But I still think my investment has been worthwhile. I buy the shares whenever they drop — and they have done that often enough."

Since the shares were sold at 100p three years ago, they have suffered almost as many setbacks as the team. The shares, which have fallen to 50p in the past, are now changing hands at 73p.

The performance has disappointed Mr Paul Bobroff, the club's chairman, and Mr Irving Brown, the property entrepreneur, who masterminded the flotation.

Their plans to expand the company through property developments and merchandising provide the key to the club's future. But events on and off the field have not given them breathing space.

The ban on teams taking part in European football has hit into revenue and is reflected by a drop in attendances. In the first half of last year, Tottenham reported a pre-tax loss of £528,000. It was expected to have a better second half but the company will still finish in the red.

Mr Brown says he has plenty of ideas on the property front to help his team but his overtures — particularly for a seat on the board — have always met with stout defiance by Mr Bobroff and his colleagues who control 40 per cent of the shares.

Mr Brown added: "I have considerable stock in the company and I think they realize that they have to treat me right."

Balanced way to standard on inflation accounting

ANALYSIS

The Accounting Standards Committee is having another shot at producing a definitive standard on inflation accounting. This week, it intends to publish a booklet with its proposals on how a new standard may be formulated.

After the fuss and embarrassment over SSAP 16, the accountancy bodies are taking no chances. This document will be in the nature of a discussion paper and allows full consultation with all interested parties before any new standard is drafted.

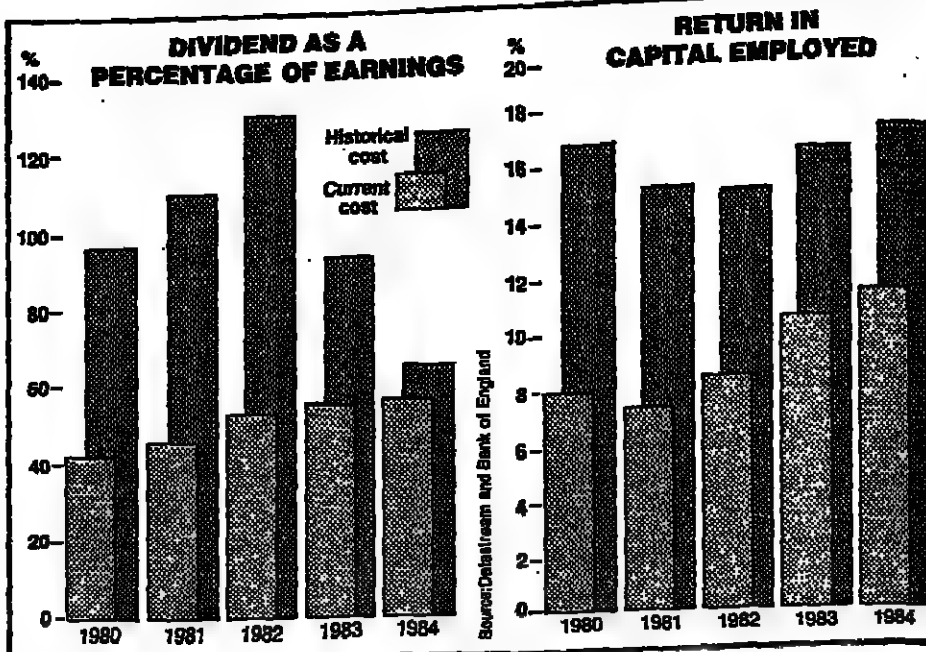
It will, nevertheless, contain proposals for current cost asset valuation which, it is hoped, will overcome the deficiencies of the historical cost method while allowing flexibility. It is likely to allow a choice of two concepts of capital maintenance: companies can choose to opt for maintaining their operating capital or their financial capital. The distinction between these concepts is described in the inset section.

More difficult to overcome is the objection to current cost accounting since it relies on asset values which are bound to have an element of subjectivity.

Assets will be revalued using an index. The choice of index will be subjective, while the index itself is unlikely to be free from distortion. During a period of rapid technological change, at least part of the rise in an index will be a reflection of improvements in the quality of some of its constituents.

And there will always be the objection who views any index as he might regard a sausage the more he knows about what went into it, the less he likes it. But if the proposals give a useful result, perhaps the prize of greater usefulness can compensate for reduced objectivity and the inadequacy of indices.

The search for a satisfactory method of accounting for changing prices is not too urgent at the moment. When inflation is only 2.4 per cent, prices double only every 29 years. At an inflation rate of 5 per cent, however, prices double every 14 years — so that even apparently low



A glance at historical cost

Current cost accounting seeks to enable businesses to maintain the real value of their capital assets. When the assets are worn out, they must be replaced, often at much higher prices than they cost originally.

In accounting statements using the historical cost convention, the depreciation charge against the profit and loss account, based on the original acquisition cost, will be insufficient often to replace the asset. The profit will be overstated and the shareholders' capital will not be preserved.

inflation rates can have a significant cumulative effect. Low inflation may not last.

A different government may decide that redistribution of wealth and an increase in social security benefits are its priorities, regardless of the effect on inflation.

Historical cost accounts may be perfectly adequate for the purposes of running a business when there is no, or low inflation. But in times of rapidly changing prices, historical cost accounts have severe limitations. They distort the underlying profit trend.

Dividends, which appear to be covered up to three

times by profits, may hardly be covered at all on a current cost basis. The chart shows how, in 1982, a sample of British companies thought it was paying out 50 per cent of earnings, but on a current cost basis was paying out 130 per cent. Dividend payments exceeded earnings.

Return on capital employed is fattened by historical cost accounts. Assets may cost significantly more to replace than the depreciated values shown on the balance sheet. If the return on capital used were to be calculated on the cost of new assets, the business would look much less profitable.

If the trader treats the whole of the £58 surplus as his profit,

he will still leave his original money capital of £100 in the business. But he will find it difficult to continue trading without borrowing because his original capital is no longer enough to buy another machine.

To conserve his operating assets, he needs to retain £120 in the business, giving a profit of £30. He therefore maintains his operating capital.

He may however, be content to conserve his financial capital. Based on a general rate of inflation of 10 per cent, this means he would leave £110 in the business, giving a £40 profit.

Using 1982 for illustrative purposes, the chart shows that the companies which thought they were earning an average return on capital of nearly 15 per cent on an historical cost basis were, in fact, making only half that on a current cost basis.

Other distortions can occur. What appears to be a rising profit trend may, on adjustment for inflation, be a falling trend.

It is possible that inflation could return to double figures. If this happens, accountancy bodies are determined not to be caught unawares.

Carol Ferguson

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| Authorized | Issued and to be issued fully paid |
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The Radamec group designs, manufactures and markets products based on specialised high technology expertise in electronics and in precision mechanical engineering for both military and civil applications.

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the grant of permission to deal in the Ordinary Shares of Radamec Group PLC in the Unlisted Securities Market. It is emphasised that no application has been made for these securities to be admitted to listing.

A proportion of the shares being placed has been offered to, and is available through, the market at the date of this advertisement. It is anticipated that dealings will commence on Monday, 6th October, 1986.

Particulars relating to the Radamec group are available in the Eutel Statistical Services and copies of the Prospectus may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) up to and including 13th October, 1986, from:

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29th September, 1986

BRITISH NUCLEAR FUELS PLC THE YEAR IN REVIEW

A review of the Company's performance and prospects by new Chairman Christopher Harding.

British Nuclear Fuels saw turnover increase by some 15% to £629M, with home sales improving by over 21% to £507M. Exports stood at £122M, only 5% lower than the record level set in 1985, while investment rose from £367M to £446M in 1986.

Despite an increase in turnover of £84M, the pre-tax profit is down to £44M from £68M last year and the dividend is lowered to £8.2M.

There were two main reasons for the downturn. Additional provisions were needed for the cost of encapsulating, storing and disposing of waste and for improvements in effluent treatment facilities. The new Fuel Handling Plant has taken longer than expected to come up to the desired production levels. It was one of the biggest and most complex construction projects ever undertaken at Sellafield and commissioning operations have reflected its complexity.

| FINANCIAL DIGEST | | |
|---------------------|------------|------------|
| | 1986 £M | 1985 £M |
| TURNOVER | 629 | 545 |
| EXPORTS | 122 | 128 |
| PROFIT BEFORE TAX | 44 | 68 |
| PROFIT AFTER TAX | 34 | 54 |
| DIVIDEND | 8.2 | 16.3 |
| INVESTMENT | 446 | 367 |
| NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES | 16,285 | 15,678 |

"On construction and research and development we shall be spending over £1M every day for the next ten years."

The commissioning of SIXEP — The Site Ion Exchange Effluent Plant — has halved low level radioactive effluent discharges at Sellafield. Our

aim is to bring these levels down to as near zero as makes no difference. To achieve this, new plants have already been approved which are due to come on stream in the early 1990's.

"Our investment programme and healthy order book provide jobs for 16,000 people and underwrite the jobs of some 50,000 more."

Our business prospects look extremely encouraging. We recently signed contracts with the Central Electricity Generating Board and the South of Scotland Electricity Board, to undertake reprocessing work in the Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant — THORP — when it is commissioned in the next decade. These contracts, together with those already signed by overseas customers are worth over £4,000M during the first ten years of the plant's operation.

"It must be emphasised, that no cost reductions will be made at the expense of safety. Indeed, we do not have a business unless we have a safe business."

The public quite rightly expects us to meet the tightest safety and environmental standards, even more stringent than in other industries. We accept that. The public also expects nuclear power to remain competitive. So we must look for constant improvements in our operations.

The public needs to know all about us. That is the reason we have initiated an advertising campaign which invites people to see Sellafield for themselves. In doing this we are pursuing our aim of not only being open, but of being seen to be open.

"Chernobyl — there are lessons we can all learn."

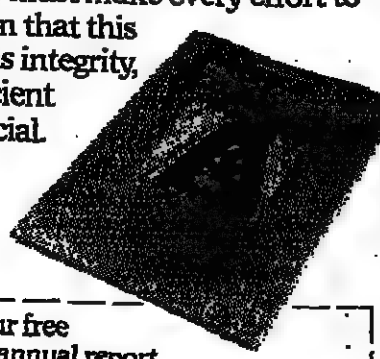
Even though Chernobyl-type reactors would not be allowed to

operate in this country and though the BNFL Group itself is a relatively minor reactor operator, we are obviously keen to find out what went wrong and to share the knowledge gained on the effects of radiation.

"We can meet the nation's need for inexpensive electricity without exhausting our reserves of fossil fuel."

The demand for energy is expected to increase by 2 per cent per annum to meet the needs of an expanding world population. At that rate the probable reserves of oil and gas will run out sometime around the middle of the next century, while the world's coal is estimated to run out not much later. Renewable energy sources are expected to meet only a small fraction of the world's requirements.

By contrast there is an almost limitless supply of uranium. Consequently nuclear energy will continue to be in demand. The importance of cheap nuclear-powered electricity to Britain cannot be understated. But we have to take the public with us. We must make every effort to inform them that this industry has integrity, is safe, efficient and beneficial.



Send for your free copy of our annual report and accounts to:
British Nuclear Fuels plc,
Information Services, Risley, Warrington,
Cheshire WA3 6AS.

Name _____
Address _____

BNFL



مكرام الشعل

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalization and week's change

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end October 10. Contango day October 13. Settlement day September 20.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Portfolio
—Gold—

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

| No. | Company | Group | Share of |
|-----|----------------------|-----------------|----------|
| 1 | Scott & Robertson | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 2 | Wegwood | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 3 | Hammonds | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 4 | Utd Newspapers | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 5 | SEET | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 6 | Remolli | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 7 | Prop Hides | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 8 | New Trade Supp | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 9 | Lopex | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 10 | LWT Hides | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 11 | Beckman (A) | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 12 | Blue Cuts | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 13 | Michell Cotts | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 14 | HL Shinghai | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 15 | Ladies Price | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 16 | Lopex | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 17 | Providence | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 18 | Courts | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 19 | Waddington (J) | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 20 | Asac Fisheries | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 21 | Hammes | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 22 | Tranhouse Forte | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 23 | RH | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 24 | Lee Cooper | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 25 | Turnall | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 26 | Smurfit (J) | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 27 | Perrin | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 28 | Bank of Ireland | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 29 | Wiggins | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 30 | Braxa | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 31 | Watt | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 32 | AB Elect | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 33 | Cartel (A) | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 34 | Country & New | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 35 | Ward | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 36 | Porter Chadburn | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 37 | Seear (J) | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 38 | Johnson Cleaners | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 39 | Jerome (S) | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 40 | Aut New Z | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 41 | SA Breweries | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 42 | Press Marnon | Industrials S-Z | 100 |
| 43 | Times Newspapers Ltd | Industrials S-Z | 100 |

| Weekly Dividend | | | | | |
|-----------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| Company | Dividend | Share | Dividend | Share | Dividend |
| 1 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 2 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 3 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 4 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 5 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 6 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 7 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 8 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 9 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 10 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 11 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 12 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 13 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 14 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 15 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 16 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 17 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 18 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 19 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 20 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 21 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 22 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 23 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 24 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 25 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 26 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 27 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 28 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 29 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 30 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 31 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 32 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 33 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 34 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 35 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 36 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 37 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 38 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 39 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 40 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 41 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 42 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 43 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

| BRITISH FUNDS | | | | | |
|---------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| Company | Dividend | Share | Dividend | Share | Dividend |
| 1 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 2 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 3 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 4 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 5 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 6 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 7 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 8 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 9 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 10 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 11 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 12 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 13 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 14 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 15 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 16 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 17 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 18 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 19 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 20 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 21 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 22 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 23 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 24 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 25 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 26 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 27 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 28 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 29 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 30 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 31 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 32 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 33 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 34 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 35 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 36 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 37 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 38 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 39 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 40 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 41 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 42 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 43 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

| SHORTS (Under Five Years) | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| Company | Dividend | Share | Dividend | Share | Dividend |
| 1 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 2 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 3 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 4 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 5 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 6 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 7 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 8 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 9 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 10 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 11 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 12 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 13 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 14 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 15 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 16 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 17 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 18 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 19 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 20 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 21 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 22 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 23 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 24 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 25 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 26 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 27 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 28 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 29 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 30 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 31 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 32 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 33 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 34 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 35 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 36 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 37 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 38 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 39 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 40 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 41 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 42 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 43 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

| FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| Company | Dividend | Share | Dividend | Share | Dividend |
| 1 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 2 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 3 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 4 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 5 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 6 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 7 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 8 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 9 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 10 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 11 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 12 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 13 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 14 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 15 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 16 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 17 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 18 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 19 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 20 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 21 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 22 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 23 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 24 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 25 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 26 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 27 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 28 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 29 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 30 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 31 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 32 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 33 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 34 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 35 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 36 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 37 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 38 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 39 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 40 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 41 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 42 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 43 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

| OVER FIFTEEN YEARS | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| Company | Dividend | Share | Dividend | Share | Dividend |
| 1 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 2 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 3 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 4 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 5 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 6 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 7 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 8 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 9 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 10 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 11 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 12 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

US NOTEBOOK

A state of confusion on US policy for dollar

From Maxwell Newton, New York

American policy on the value of the dollar is in a state of total confusion, and the markets are being "whipsawed" as contradictory statements are made by the Secretary to the Treasury, Mr. James Baker, the chief economist in the Department of Commerce, Mr. Robert Ortner, and the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, Mr. Paul Volcker.

Meanwhile, speculation about possible European intervention in the currency markets to support the dollar has encouraged a sharp improvement in the dollar this week.

The trouble and confusion began on September 18 when Mr. Baker, evidently trying to force the Japanese and the Germans into more expansive economic policies, announced that the dollar would have to go down much further.

On Monday the dollar rose sharply on speculation about massive European intervention to come in support of the dollar. There was no evidence of this, but the currency futures markets in New York plunged. The December mark fell 1.08 points (the December pound was down 195 points), the Swiss franc 121 points and the yen 71 points.

On Tuesday the dollar continued to rise but at a slower pace. On Wednesday Mr. Volcker told Congress that the dollar had reached a point at which US companies could compete with foreign ones, and that there was no need for

any further decline in the dollar on the scale of the previous 12 months.

He was contradicted by an unnamed Administration spokesman and by Mr. Ortner, who said the dollar must come down more.

It appears that Mr. Volcker has thus thrown in his lot with the Bundesbank and in opposition to the US Treasury which, through Mr. Baker, has been arguing strenuously that the dollar is overvalued.

Support for a further major — and broader — devaluation came from the new index of the trade-weighted dollar, based on 1985 weights, covering about three-quarters of US trade and published last week by the Manufacturers Hanover Trust.

This index — it is much broader and much more up-to-date than the old Fed index — showed that the dollar has been devalued by no more than 4 per cent since the peak in February, 1985. Further evidence of high-level scepticism about the value of the dollar also came from two banks — Morgan Stanley and Morgan Guaranty.

Studies by these banks make it clear that the dollar must move considerably lower before there is any chance of substantially easing the deflationary pressure on US growth and US industry.

Mr. Stephen Rach, senior economist at Morgan Stanley, writes in the bank's *Economic Perspectives*: "The link between foreign exchange rates

and import prices is the acid test of the power of currency adjustments to evoke shifts in trading patterns.

"Since import prices have not risen enough to redirect purchases back to domestically-produced goods, a policy of 'dollar management' simply has not worked. Consequently, the US economy could well be facing a chronic deficit in merchandise trade."

"This spells bad news for policymakers and for the US manufacturers who continue to bank on the alluring sharp of the ever-elusive J-curve."

Morgan Guaranty in its *Economic Quarterly*, says: "The key trouble with embracing a more positive near-term view (of the economy) is that, alongside the few upbeat items that can be cited, there continue to be a lot of worrisome negatives."

"Most important of these, by far, is this country's trade accounts. Contrary to all hope generated by the massive depreciation of the dollar that has occurred since early 1985, there is simply little or no evidence yet that either export or import patterns are responding."

"Indeed, July's \$18 billion trade deficit, while preliminary and subject to revision, emphasized that the nadir may not have been reached. All in all, recent trends suggest that the depreciation of the dollar may not have gone far enough — or been broad enough — to alter purchasing decisions in a major way."

Another extension on PCW agreement

By Alison Eadie

The standstill agreement on litigation between Lloyd's names on PCW syndicates and potential defendants has been extended yet again.

The agreement was due to expire tomorrow, raising the spectre of a multi-million pound lawsuit by the names. Instead it has been extended on a 21-day rolling basis. The defendants have agreed not to plead the statute of limitations.

The agreement has been extended, although there are no immediate signs of a settlement of the protracted PCW affair. Lloyd's, itself a defendant, has been working towards a settlement with both names and defendants, particularly the large brokers.

However, the crucial stage of spelling out who should pay what has not been reached. Gross losses of the PCW syndicates stand at £380 million which netted down to £235 million after taking account of existing cash and potential reinsurance recoveries.

Lloyd's maintains that names will have to make a substantial contribution to the losses but has not said how much. Names, whose losses were partly attributable to fraud, are unwilling to pay much, because they feel they have a very good legal case for resisting.

The brokers are also publicly maintaining their stance that they have no legal liability for the losses.

A further complication is the allocation of losses between individual names.

Stabilizing sterling is the key

The cry at the Bank of England last week was "fire!" and it was the same cry in the market as investors staggered to the exits. Trade figures for August, the worst, turned traders' dreams to ashes. How long ago seemed April with its 8.5 per cent yields.

In retrospect, the spring rally can be seen as having been based primarily on international factors. They included the fall in oil and other raw material prices, a commitment to stringent fiscal policies in most industrial countries and the success of the Plaza Agreement.

Lower oil prices helped in the obvious sense that they prompted a general downward revision of inflation forecasts. They also shifted funds away from oil producers towards oil consumers, impoverishing short-term borrowers and enriching long-term savers.

The history of the United States yield curve tells the story of changing supply and demand pressures in the market place. At December 31, 1985, US three-month Treasury bills yielded 7.26 per cent while the 30-year Treasury long bond gave a return of 9.27 per cent. By May, the bill yield was 99 basis points down at 6.27 per cent but the bond yield had fallen 178 basis points, to 7.49 per cent. Consistent with this pattern, the most recent firming in oil prices has been accompanied by a widening in the bill/bond yield differential back out to 230 basis points.

Bond markets also saw fiscal policies as broadly favourable. Even in the United States the spirit of

Gramm-Rudman seemed to introduce a new element into the political debate which promised to eliminate international imbalances and usher in a period of orderly economic progress.

American policy makers undertook their budget-cutting initiative as their contribution to the so-called G-5 process, in which the leading industrial countries agreed to pursue their economic objectives in concert.

The Plaza Agreement of the G-5 called for a fall in the dollar's exchange rate. This was quickly achieved, with remarkably little effort on the part of the central banks concerned. No wonder, therefore, that markets began to entertain hopes that other objectives, such as real interest rate reductions, might be just as easily effected.

British gilts, to be sure, responded less to the mood of optimism than did some other major bond markets. Nevertheless, two hopes sustained the gilt market at 8.5 per cent yields in April. One was that the beneficial impact of the favourable factors would be even greater than the forecasts were indicating. This would have been a reasonable expectation if the world had been moving out of its accident-prone state of the 1970s and early 1980s into a more serene era. The other hope was that Britain would, in a less hostile international environment, find it increasingly easy to solve its economic problems and close the performance lag relative to the other industrial nations. This, in turn, would help to assure a settled political

prospect for the country. One by one, these hopes, and the assumptions on which they were based, have fallen away, leaving investors to confront the realities of balance of payments deterioration and stubbornly high domestic cost increases being met by flaccid fiscal and monetary policies.

So, the oil price has backed up and will probably be supported seeing that a collapse in it in no-one's interest. The American authorities would hardly welcome the "all-out" from a cut in the oil price to \$5, or even \$10, per barrel for American oil companies and for the American banks which are committed to them.

The Federal Reserve's credit policy is not "inflationist" in the sense that the United States central bank is actively seeking to reverse the process of disinflation which has been under way since 1982. For the American bond market it must now seem a sure-fire bet that monetary accommodation will continue until inflation returns to the 4 per cent or so rate that would take enough hard-pressed borrowers off the hook to rescue the American banking system.

It is no longer a question of whether inflation will return but a question of when and will the Federal Reserve be able to contain inflation to the gentle rate it desires.

Gilts are not likely to gain much encouragement from this international background. That leaves the market dependent on domestic influences, chief among

which are inflation prospects. Even Government spokesmen are saying that 2.4 per cent represents a trough for this year. Inflation is now set to pick up, perhaps close to 5 per cent by the end of next year.

Such a projection, however, rests on the assumption that the Government will be able to stabilize sterling around the 70 effective rate level. Should sterling be weaker than this, inflation would turn out higher. As a rough rule of thumb, each 5 per cent sustained fall in sterling would add about one percentage point to inflation by the end of next year.

Long-dated gilt yields in the current 10.25-10.5 per cent range probably fully discount a prospective 5 per cent inflation rate. The index-linked issues are yielding 3.5 per cent so current long yields have a reasonably wide risk premium built into them.

If, however, sterling were to slip further, making 6 per cent or higher inflation during 1987 a likely prospect, the present yields on "longs" might appear too thin. Much depends, therefore, on the authorities' ability to stabilize sterling.

If they take decisive measures to support the pound through a rise in short-term interest rates, as seems likely sooner or later, that would be the signal gilt investors need to be assured that it is safe to begin accumulating stock again.

Stephen Lewis

The author is director of economic research at Phillips & Drew.

COMPANY NEWS

■ **ALBANY INVESTMENT TRUST:** Interim dividend 0.53p (0.5p, adjusted) for the half-year to Aug. 30, payable on Nov. 5. The directors expect to maintain the final dividend (which was 1.25p, adjusted last time). Pretax profit £158,605 (£152,779). Earnings per share 1.11p (1.06p, adjusted).

■ **UDO HOLDINGS:** The company has bought Bayliss Wisdom, a supplier of drawing office equipment and related materials and John Wisdom, a maker and supplier of drawing office furniture and general drawing office materials, for £750,000. The two were both subsidiaries of Harper and Tunstall. UDO has also undertaken to repay in cash to Harper net inter-group borrowings of about £273,000.

■ **THORN EMI:** The company's holding of about 16.2 million ordinary shares (20 per cent) of Myson Group has been placed in the market, realizing £22 million. This holding was acquired in part-consideration for the sale of Thorn EMI Heating to Myson in March. This sale will result in tax-free capital gain in Thorn's current year of £7.25 million.

■ **COCKBURN CEMENT:** (subsidiary of Rugby Portland Cement). Six months to June 30. Pretax profit Aus\$4.32 million (£1.89 million), against Aus\$4.67 million. Interim dividend 3.75 cents (3.25 cents). Turnover, Aus\$35.71 million (Aus\$32.08 million). The board gives a warning that turnover is likely to be lower in the second half and this, together with higher interest and depreciation charges, will adversely affect the year's results.

■ **PERGAMON PRESS INC:** The company has bought the business and certain assets of the Orbit Search Service Division of System Development, a subsidiary of Burroughs Corp. Included in the acquisition is the Orbit text-retrieval software system. The Orbit Search Service, based in Santa Monica, California, is a leading on-line vendor of some 60 databases for use by the scientific and technical information communities.

■ **WILLIAM SINDALL:** Six months to June 30. Interim dividend 3p (same). Turnover £15.4 million (£12.76 million). Pretax profit £195,000 (£218,000). Earnings per share 18.3p (20.5p).

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

| STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Market rates | Bank rates | 1 month | 3 months |
| New York 1.4920-1.4930 | 1.4925-1.4935 | 0.49-0.4950 | 1.05-1.0550 |
| London 1.4915-1.4925 | 1.4920-1.4930 | 0.49-0.4950 | 1.05-1.0550 |
| Amst 1.4910-1.4920 | 1.4915-1.4925 | 0.49-0.4950 | 1.05-1.0550 |
| Brussels 0.7072-0.7105 | 0.7075-0.7100 | 0.70-0.7050 | 0.70-0.7050 |
| Chicago 1.0718-1.0730 | 1.0715-1.0725 | 1.07-1.0750 | 1.07-1.0750 |
| Dublin 1.0685-1.0705 | 1.0680-1.0690 | 1.06-1.0650 | 1.06-1.0650 |
| Frankfurt 2.8277-2.8438 | 2.8280-2.8430 | 2.82-2.8250 | 2.82-2.8250 |
| Geneva 2.7105-2.7130 | 2.7100-2.7120 | 2.71-2.7150 | 2.71-2.7150 |
| Madrid 193.28-194.00 | 193.25-193.50 | 193-193.50 | 193-193.50 |
| Paris 202.14-203.00 | 202.10-202.50 | 202-202.50 | 202-202.50 |
| Rome 10.8125-10.8200 | 10.8120-10.8150 | 10.81-10.8150 | 10.81-10.8150 |
| Singapore 8.5925-8.6418 | 8.5920-8.6410 | 8.59-8.64 | 8.59-8.64 |
| Tokyo 220.74-222.10 | 220.70-221.00 | 220-221 | 220-221 |
| Zurich 2.3670-2.3885 | 2.3670-2.3885 | 2.36-2.37 | 2.36-2.37 |

Sterling index compared with 1975 was same at 86.7 (day's range 86.7-86.9).

| OTHER STERLING RATES | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Argentina austral | 1.5186-1.5251 |
| Australia dollar | 2.2781-2.2823 |
| Bahrain dinar | 0.5380-0.5420 |
| Brazil cruzeiro | 19.76-19.80 |
| Cyprus pound | 0.7310-0.7410 |
| Farland mark | 7.0335-7.0630 |
| Greece drachma | 163.60-166.80 |
| Hong Kong dollar | 11.1955-11.2044 |
| India rupee | 18.15-18.35 |
| Iran ryal | 0.4175-0.4215 |
| Kuwait dinar KD | 3.3685-3.3700 |
| Malaysia dollar | 1.0700-1.1200 |
| Mexico peso | 2.3485-2.3500 |
| New Zealand dollar | 0.9500-0.9700 |
| Saudi Arabia riyal | 2.4775-2.4825 |
| Singapore dollar | 0.9500-0.9700 |
| South Africa rand | 3.1955-3.2125 |
| U.A.S. dollar | 0.5040-0.5080 |
| Lloyds Bank | |

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank, HOPEX and ERM.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

| EURO MONEY DEPOSITS % | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Dollar | call 6 1/2-5 1/2 |
| 1 month | 5 1/2-5 1/4 |
| 3 months | 5 1/4-5 1/4 |
| 6 months | 5 1/4-5 1/4 |
| 12 months | 5 1/4-5 1/4 |
| Deutschmark | call 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| 1 month | 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| 3 months | 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| 6 months | 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| 12 months | 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| French franc | call 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| 1 month | 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| 3 months | 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| 6 months | 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| 12 months | 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| Swiss franc | call 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| 1 month | 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| 3 months | 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| 6 months | 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| 12 months | 4 1/2-4 1/2 |
| Yen | call 5 1/2-5 1/2 |
| 1 month | 5 1/2-5 1/2 |
| 3 months | 5 1/2-5 1/2 |
| 6 months | 5 1/2-5 1/2 |
| 12 months | 5 1/2-5 1/2 |

TREASURY BILLS

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Apples £213.1m | received 89% |
| Oranges £27.85m | received 89% |
| Last week £27.85m | received 89% |
| Next week £27.85m | received 89% |
| Next week £27.85m | received 89% |

BASE LENDING RATES

| | |
|------------------------|--------|
| ABN | 10.00% |
| Adair & Company | 10.00% |
| BCCI | 10.00% |
| Calbank Savings | 10.00% |
| Consolidated Cabs | 10.00% |
| Co-operative Bank | 10.00% |
| C. Hoare & Co. | 10.00% |
| Hong Kong & Shanghai | 10.00% |
| Lloyds Bank | 10.00% |
| Nat Westminster | 10.00% |
| Royal Bank of Scotland | 10.00% |
| TSB | 10.00% |
| Citibank NA | 10.00% |
| † Mortgage Base Rate | |

The Channel Tunnel starts at Glasgow

By the spring of 1993, there will be a fast, reliable service from as far north as Glasgow or Edinburgh to connect you and your freight with all of the major European cities. The journey will be faster and more convenient than ever before and it will be made possible by the Channel Tunnel — which will be started next autumn.

The investment required is large, but so are the rewards for the whole of Britain. In its first year of operation, there should be over 15 million passenger journeys by rail through the Tunnel, plus the millions of cars and their passengers to be transported by Eurotunnel's shuttle service.

British Rail is not re-drawing the railway map only for passengers. In the Tunnel's first year we expect to carry six million tonnes of freight. Over 70 per cent of this freight will originate or terminate beyond the London area.

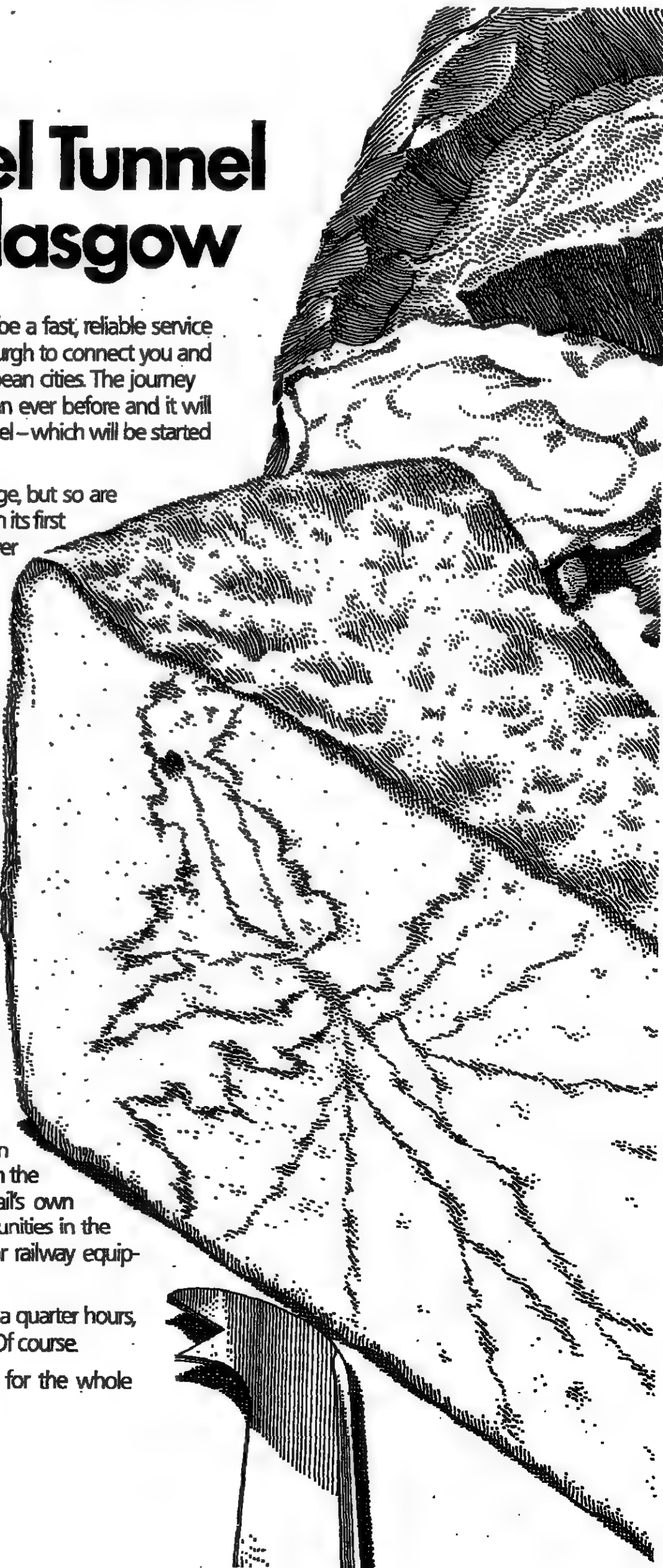
The resulting environmental benefits of relieving the road system of the equivalent of 1,500 huge lorries every single day can easily be imagined.

In addition to the billions of pounds being raised by other investors for the Tunnel itself, British Rail alone is investing £400 million both in improving stations and in building new 180mph trains.

Employment in the UK construction industry stands to benefit widely from the building of the Tunnel and British Rail's own investment will create new job opportunities in the midlands and the north of England for railway equipment and manufacturers.

London to Paris in only three and a quarter hours, with departures every hour of the day? Of course.

But there's a lot more than that for the whole of Britain.



ULTRAMAR

Ultramar PLC
Turnover in year ending
31 December 1985: £2,357,800,000.
Source: Annual Report 11/3/86.



BURMAH

The Burmah Oil plc
Turnover not of dimes in year ending
31 December 1985: £1,497,900,000.
Source: Annual Report 10/4/86.



Group of Seven ministers issue 9-point statement

This is the full text of the nine-point statement issued by the Group of Seven finance ministers in Washington on Saturday.

1. The finance ministers of seven major industrialized countries met today to conduct the first exercise of multilateral surveillance pursuant to the Tokyo Economic Declaration of May 6, 1986. The managing director of the International Monetary Fund also participated in this meeting.

2. The ministers reviewed recent economic developments and their economic objectives and forecasts collectively, using a range of economic indicators, with a particular view to examining their mutual compatibility and to considering the need for remedial measures.

3. The ministers noted that progress had been made in promoting steady, non-inflationary growth in their countries.

4. There is broad agreement among the ministers on the economic outlook in their countries: prospects for further growth in 1987 are generally favourable, and more jobs will be created, although the level of unemployment will remain high in some countries. Inflation is likely to remain low. Interest rates have fallen with particular beneficial effects for indebted developing countries.

5. However, the ministers noted that the present state of some current account imbalances cannot be sustained. The exchange rate changes since last year are making an important contribution towards redressing these imbalances, and their full effects will increasingly come through in the period ahead.

6. The ministers agreed that co-operative efforts need to be



Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, right, and Paul Volcker, the Federal Reserve Board chairman, at the Washington talks.

intensified in order to reduce the imbalances in the context of an open, growing world economy. They noted, in this connection, that economic growth in surplus countries was improving, but such growth will need to be sustained — and in some cases increased. Countries with major deficits must follow policies which will foster significant reductions in their external deficits, and they committed themselves, among other things, to make further progress in reducing their budget deficits in order to free resources to the external sector. These actions should help stabilize exchange rates, and all are necessary so that imbalances can be reduced sufficiently without further significant exchange rate adjustment.

7. In the circumstances, the Ministers agreed that the policies of all countries during the period immediately ahead would be formulated with the following objectives in mind:

• To continue to follow sound monetary policies supporting non-inflationary growth and contributing to international adjustment in order to help maintain the conditions for business confidence and for lower interest rates.

• To continue efforts to resist protectionist pressures.

• To continue efforts to foster an open, growing world economy which is particularly important for the resolution of the international debt problem.

9. In order to fulfil their responsibilities in the context of the Tokyo Economic Declaration used to achieve the objectives set out above, they agreed to the close and continuous co-ordination of economic policy during the period ahead.

Decision on trade mark office today

By Anne Warden

London's choice of a site for the proposed European Community trade mark office is to be announced today by Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister of State for Industry and Information Technology.

It is thought likely to fall on a 90,000 sq ft office and shops development with a piazza and access to the river at St Katharine's Dock, East London.

Another leading contender is a £30 million scheme for shops, offices, an hotel and a conference centre at Harrow, West London. Two other sites

— at Croydon, South London, and at Cockspur Street, near Trafalgar Square — have been considered.

London's rivals for the EEC institution, expected to be in operation by 1988 or 1989, are Munich, The Hague and Strasbourg.

The trade mark office would be the first EEC institution to have its headquarters in Britain, if London were chosen. The office would bring an initial 200 jobs.

The European Commission has asked for the bids to be in by this Tuesday.

British footwear on slide

By Derek Harris
Industrial Editor

Footwear deliveries plunged 10 per cent, on a seasonally adjusted basis, in the three months ended July compared with the first quarter of this year.

At the same time British order books were 28 per cent slimmer.

This deterioration in footwear industry performance emerges from new analyses by the Department of Trade and Industry in the latest issue of the DTI magazine *British Business*.

Except for May, which was also a bad month for the industry, July deliveries of 10.1 million pairs (the seasonally adjusted figure) were the lowest since the middle of last year.

Orders on hand in July stood at 41.8 million pairs.

The latest analyses up to May of the British Footwear Manufacturers' Federation had been painting a rather more optimistic picture, showing imports down 6 per cent in the first five months of the year.

APPOINTMENTS

Dowry Group: Mr A N Thatcher is promoted to deputy chief executive.

Commercial Bank of Wales: Sir Thomas Risk, Mr J E Boyd, Mr D B Pattillo and Mr A T Gibson join the board.

Total Oil Great Britain: Mr Graham Powell is to become director of marketing.

London & Metropolitan: Mr Norman Ireland is appointed chairman. Mr David Lewis becomes chief executive. Mr John Aitken and Mr Nicholas Sheehan become non-executive directors. Mr Peter Gibson, Mr Christopher Harris and Mr Roger Walton become directors, and Mr John Theophanis is appointed company secretary.

DAKS Simpson Group: Mr Jeremy Franks joins the board.

Intasun Travel: Mr Mike Cogan becomes systems director.

Alfred McAlpine Homes: Mr Bill Oliver and Mrs Pamela Gilchrist join the board.

Federation of British Electrotechnical and Allied Manufacturers' Associations: Sir William Barlow is elected president.

Laidlaw Thomson Group: Mr Brian Carroll has been appointed a non-executive director.

Racal-Transcom: Mr Peter Smalley becomes technical director.

The Continental and Industrial Trust: Mr J M Hignett and Lord Newall are made non-executive directors.

Union Bank of Switzerland (Securities): Mr Cees Moerman has been named as director. Money Market Instruments: Mr Cliff Hazell is to be director of trading. UBS Securities.

Benlox Holdings: Mr A Soffronov and Mr K W Ketteringham have become directors.

Medway Ports Authority: Mr John Carey has been appointed deputy director of operations at Sheerness.

Degrees awarded by the University of London

The London School of Economics

LLB with French law

Class 1 (Ord): S E Hall, M S

Class 2 (Ord): S A Mead.

Imperial College of Science and Technology

BSc (Eng)

Aeronautical Engineering

First Class: R E Green, S Hinde, M

Class 1 (Ord): R H Arbut, P S Clark, O P Nais, G Orton, L Quarter, R P Stokes, R D Underwood.

Class 2 (Ord): A P But, M J Cook, M P Gossens, A H Jones, P K Hughes, S N Williams.

Third Class: M J Gossens, M A Cuthbert, A P Hodge, B T Koudat, S T Soudan.

Chemical Engineering

Third Class: A E Wood, V L

Class 2 (Ord): A A Ahmed, V L

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HORIZONS

A guide to
career choice



While an individual may enjoy studying for a degree of their choice, such as theatre studies, this does not provide a water-tight passport to a job in that profession. Quite often a totally different option such as teaching will provide the answer to any future career doubts

A change of roles in mid-act

I never really considered whether going to university was right for me or not. It was just assumed by everyone, myself included, that it could get in I would go. When the time came to apply to universities through UCAS, it was clear that my preference for English was reflected in my performance in that subject, so I applied to read English.

The three year course at Oxford is not perhaps the best constructed in the country, nor the most vocationally useful, but I thoroughly enjoyed my time there, learning all the things one is supposed to learn at university apart from one's specialisation.

What mattered more was that I was able to continue acting, my great love since childhood, and later to try my hand at directing. With this experience of

While it is important to study subjects close to the heart, this will not guarantee a career of your choice. There are, Stephanie Loshak says, some difficult decisions that have to be taken

Whatever course is studied, the career issue will remain

working in theatre, even on the amateur student level, I decided that way what I wanted to do.

I knew I had neither the talent nor the experience for a professional acting career. Directing, too, as it usually derives from an ability to act, seemed ruled out. So I began to look into the possibilities of teaching drama in adult, further or higher education.

I was advised by a tutor at Oxford that a university career would demand an M.Phil qualification at least, more likely a Ph.D., and that I did not have the ability for that sort of study. He did suggest that a one-year MA course might be more suitable and said that this should qualify me to teach at colleges of further education or polytechnics.

I approached Oxford's career service to inquire further, but they told me to forget this "too ambitious" scheme and apply for the standard teaching qualification course.

I explained that the kind of drama I wanted to teach was more specialised and time consuming than could be taught in any school, however excellent the facilities. But I was firmly told that I would be perfectly happy teaching in secondary schools and should forget any other notions.

Nevertheless, for my own education, if

for no career motivated reason, I applied for MA courses in theatre studies and, after some concern over grants, took a course at Leeds University.

I was in the fortunate position of having been interested and involved in drama for some time but not to have studied the academic, theoretical side. So I was neither going over old ground nor out of my depth in the practical work, of which there was plenty.

As a result, I enjoyed the course more than many who were on it. But as we reached the end of an intensive, demanding nine months, the career issue necessarily came up again.

Now, it was a different story. I was told that the MA had not really qualified me for anything after all, certainly not academic life. A few years ago it might have done, but cuts in arts funding now meant that even the most junior lecturerships were going to highly qualified, experienced people, only too happy to have jobs at all, even if at the bottom of the ladder.

I faced two alternatives: either to embark on a Ph.D. after all, which I was not advised I was capable of undertaking, or to return to the teacher training idea. For reasons of time, money and, despite encouragement, uncertainty as to my own ability, I abandoned the idea of the Ph.D. and applied for teacher training courses.

Teachers, both experienced and in training, told me how depressing, under-acknowledged and soul-destroying they found their work. They saw little hope

for the profession and all advised me against entering it.

I wrote to every theatre in London outside the West End offering to work for nothing, just to gain the vital experience. Only one replied: five months later, I still await the outcome.

I have now come to realise that any chances of theatre-related work, enthusiasm and qualifications notwithstanding, are remote.

I have the option of a place on a teacher training course but frankly wonder whether teaching is the right choice. As long as there are such doubts it would be unwise (not to say unfair to any future pupils) for me to proceed.

So I have started to look at other career possibilities. The most attractive is advertising, because it combines the

A future in teaching can often raise serious doubts

creativity which has been the motivating factor in my degree courses with a need to understand media-to-audience relationships, vital to directing plays, in an intelligent and stimulating environment.

A number of friends from Oxford days are in advertising and like it. Their enthusiasm is an attraction in itself, especially when the alternative is to start my working life in teaching, a profession sadly characterized by despondency.

I have, of course, to consider my own suitability for a career in advertising: responses from speculative letters I have written to graduate recruiters have been favourable, but graduate entry into advertising is largely confined to the milk round which starts in December, so I have now to make the choice - teaching or advertising?

But although the prospect of doing something completely new in an area where promotion and pay would be linked to my ability and performance, and where the status of the work would reflect my educational attainment is appealing, I still find it hard to accept that I will probably have to leave behind the work I have been doing, and abandon the career for which I have been preparing for the last 14 of my 23 years.

Stephanie Loshak is now on a teacher training course.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

Cranfield

The Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham, Oxfordshire, is a major faculty of the Cranfield Institute of Technology and the base for the newly-formed Centre of Information Technology—the largest in the U.K. The RMCS has excellent teaching and research facilities and very close links with Government R & D laboratories and the defence industry.

PROFESSOR/READER in Software Engineering

Applications are invited for the appointment of a Professor who will lead the Software Engineering Group at the RMCS and be expected to make a major contribution to the development of the Centre of Information Technology.

Ideally you should therefore have a broad knowledge of the following areas: formal and systematic methods of analysis, specification and design; validation and verification; reliability, metrics and fault tolerance; quality assurance, re-usability and maintenance; project management, support tools and environments; and the relationship between software engineering and other information technologies.

A demonstrable research record or industrial experience in at least one of the above areas is essential.

The post is based at the RMCS, Shrivenham, with a salary of £22,000 p.a. Younger candidates are strongly encouraged to apply and will be considered for appointment as an Associate Professor or Reader (salary up to £18,625 p.a.).

For further details please contact: Head of Personnel Services, Cranfield Institute of Technology, Bedford MK43 0AL, United Kingdom. Telephone Bedford (0234) 750111 ext. 3330 or 3336 quoting reference PSE. Closing date for receipt of applications 27th October.

Royal Military College of Science SHRIVENHAM

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

Department of Physics and the National Physical Laboratory

Applications are invited for a Professor of Physics to lead the development of a new research group in the Department of Physics. The post holder will be expected to make a major contribution to the development of the Department and to the National Physical Laboratory. The post holder will be expected to have a strong research background in the field of Physics and to have a strong leadership ability. The post holder will be expected to have a strong research background in the field of Physics and to have a strong leadership ability. The post holder will be expected to have a strong research background in the field of Physics and to have a strong leadership ability.

University of Bristol CHAIR IN DENTAL CARE FOR THE ELDERLY

The University proposes to make an appointment to a Chair in Dental Care for the Elderly. This is to be a full-time post embracing a preventive approach to the dental management of the elderly and those with special medical or dental needs.

Suitable qualified candidates are invited to submit applications to the Chair in Dental Care for the Elderly. Further particulars of the appointment may be obtained from the Registrar and Secretary, University Senate House, Bristol BS8 1TH.

University of Bristol

Department of Extra-Mural Studies

RESEARCH ASSISTANT FOR THE PROJECT ON MARKETING COURSES IN RURAL AREAS

The University proposes to appoint a research assistant to assist the Department of Education and Science funded project on marketing courses in rural areas based on the parish unit.

Salary will be on the scale £3,000 - £3,400 (under review).

Applications (with the names of two referees) are invited from suitably qualified persons with appropriate research and writing experience, and should be sent before October 30th, 1986, to the Assistant Director, Department of Extra-Mural Studies, University of Bristol, Wills Memorial Building, Queen's Road, Bristol BS8 1TH, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

Specialist Training

IN - COMPANY ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING IN GERMANY

We are recruiting experienced and qualified Native Speaker - Language Trainer (TEFL) - For a client in the Frankfurt Area. Applicants (C. 25-45 Years) should have a solid background in Language Teaching (RSA, PGCE/TEFL, MA, APPLING), knowledge of German and possibly a current driving license. Trainers will be employed by EURO-SPRACHSCHULEN-ORGANISATION, a large private language school organisation in West-Germany and will work on a permanent contract starting January 1987. Applications with C.V. and recent photograph to:

EURO-SPRACHSCHULEN-ORGANISATION, HAUPTSTR. 25, D-8751 STOCKSTADT/MAIN, West Germany. ATTN. MRS BASTANIER

Posts

County Durham

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Universities

UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND SOCIAL POLICY

SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH UNIT

Appointment of Research Fellows

Starting Salary £2400 (award pending)

Two senior research posts, each allocated to a Scottish Office funded study, are available in this Unit from November 1986.

1. A study of various aspects of the use of Probation Orders within Scotland. This first phase of a proposed four-year project includes a feasibility study on the outcome of which further funding will depend. This advertised post is available for one year in the first instance.

Previous research experience at postgraduate level in a related field, knowledge of Scottish legislation and familiarity with court and social work practice within Scotland are desirable. The successful candidate will be involved in research design, interviewing a wide range of respondents, data analysis and report preparation.

Informal enquiries to Mr. B. Williams, tel: (0382) 23181, ext. 4551. Please quote Ref. E57/438/86.

2. A study of the operation of systems for Reviews of children in care of Scottish local authorities. The post, which is for a two-year period in the first instance, will involve an examination of the policies and structures established within Scotland, observation of review meetings, and interviews with participants including the children concerned and their parents.

Informal enquiries to Professor E. Mapstone, tel: (0382) 23181, ext. 4847.

Further particulars from, and applications with C.V. and the names of two referees to, The Personnel Officer, The University, Dundee, DD1 4HN. Please quote Ref. E57/438/86. Closing Date: Tuesday 21st October 1986.

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

LECTURESHIP IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the Department of Physical Education (tenable from 1 April 1987 or earlier if possible). Students in the Department study for a BA (with QTS) specialising in the secondary age range. The successful candidate will contribute to the professional and subject courses both theoretical and practical, and to the University's Physical Recreation Scheme. Candidates should have a research interest in Physical Education.

Salary on the Lecturer scale: £8,020 - £15,700 p.a. (salary under review).

Further details and application forms from the Registrar, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL (0203 523637) quoting Ref. No. 7/A/86 (please mark clearly on envelope). Closing date 24th October 1986.

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Applications are invited for appointment as Administrative Assistant in the Engineering or Science Divisions of the Registry, with responsibilities mainly for student matters. Good honours degree and sound administrative experience, preferably in a university or comparable research or academic institution, are required. Salary in scale: £12,280 - £15,700 (under review) plus superannuation.

Applications by 24th October 1986 to Senior Assistant Secretary, University of Birmingham, PO Box 363, Birmingham B15 2TT from whom further particulars and application forms may be obtained. An Equal Opportunities Employer.

School of Oriental and African Studies University of London

Secretaryship of the School

Applications are invited for the post of Secretary of the School with effect from 1 October 1987. The Secretary will be the chief administrative officer and is responsible to the Governing Body for matters relating to the administration of the School, carrying out the duties under the general supervision of the Director. All other administrative officers are responsible to the Secretary.

Applicants should hold a good honours degree of a United Kingdom university (or an equivalent qualification) and should have extensive administrative experience, preferably including administrative experience in a United Kingdom university. The post is a Grade IV post on the national administrative salary scale: the present minimum salary for this grade is £19,010 per annum (subject to review). London Allowance (currently at the rate of £1,257 per annum) is payable in addition to salary. Membership of the Universities Superannuation Scheme will be compulsory. Annual holiday entitlement of 30 working days exclusive of public holidays and days when the School is closed. Further particulars and application forms are obtainable from The Secretary, School of Oriental and African Studies, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HP (Tel. 01-577 2388). Applications in sealed envelopes bearing the word Secretaryship in the bottom left hand corner must reach him not later than 24 October 1986.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

CHAIR OF SOCIOLOGY

Applications are invited for the Chair of Sociology shortly to be vacated by Professor Bryan Roberts. The other Chair of Sociology is occupied by Professor Teodor Shanin. It is intended to make an appointment from 1st July 1987, or as soon as possible thereafter. Salary will be within the normal professional range, with superannuation benefits. Applications (one copy suitable for photocopying), giving full details of qualifications and experience, and the names and addresses of three persons to whom reference may be made, should be sent not later than 31st October 1986, to the Registrar, The University, Manchester M13 9PL, from whom further information may be obtained. Please quote ref. 215/86.

UNIVERSITY OF READING

Deputy Librarian

Applications are invited from professionally qualified graduates with appropriate management experience, in an academic library for the post of Deputy Librarian. Knowledge of automated library systems is essential. The post is available from 1 April 1987. Salary scale £14,670 to £19,625 p.a. (under review) plus USS/USDF benefits. Application forms (2 copies) and further particulars may be obtained from:

Personnel Officer, University of Reading, Whiteknights, P.O. Box 217, Reading, RG6 2AH

The closing date for applications is 7 November 1986. Please quote Ref. P.31.

THE TRUSTEES OF THE HOUBLON NORMAN FUND

invite applications for a Research Fellowship, tenable at the Bank of England for the academic year 1987/88. The appointment will be for full-time research in the field of economics and finance on a topic of the candidates own choice.

The award will be at appropriate academic salary scales.

Applicants should preferably be normally resident in the UK and should apply by 14 November 1986. Details and application forms from the Secretary of the Fund: Mrs E. Salame, Economics Division HQ-4, Bank of England, Threadneedle Street, London, EC2R 8AH

NUFFIELD COLLEGE OXFORD OXI 1NF

PRIZE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Applications are invited from men and women graduates wishing to undertake research in Economics, Politics, Sociology (including some aspects of Social Psychology), Recent Economic, Social or Political History, Industrial Relations, Management Studies, Public and Social Administration, International and Public Law. To be eligible candidates must be not more than five years beyond graduation or at a comparable stage in their academic careers. The Fellowships will be for two years only. Particulars and forms from the Admissions Secretary. Applications by 1 November 1986.

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'O' and 'A' Levels, in preparation for Higher Education, Industry, Business, the Professions and the Services.

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SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIPS AND PLACES for September 1987

Closing date: 14th November 1986. Details from Headmaster's Secretary (0843) 592630

FELIXSTOWE COLLEGE

JUNIOR AND SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIPS

Academic Scholarships of an annual value ranging from one quarter less to full fees will be offered on the results of examinations to be held on January 26th and February 16th 1987, for girls between 10 and 12 on September 1st, 1987, and on February 28th for girls wishing to enter our Sixth Form in September 1987.

Music Scholarships are also available and auditions will be on January 24th 1987.

All entry forms should be received by November 30th 1986. Full details and forms are available from The Registrar, Felixstowe College, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 7NQ.

Fellowships

LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL

RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP

LEADING TO PHD IN FACULTY OF ECONOMICS

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

A studentship is available for work on a large established data base, suitable for testing hypotheses about the birth and death rates of small firms.

Applicants should be well qualified in economics and/or econometrics. They should send their CV and three references to:

Professor Michael Beesley, Director of the Doctoral Programme, London Business School, Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4SA.

BRASENOSE COLLEGE

EDWARD WHITE BATE JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN THE NATURAL SCIENCES

The College invites applications from graduates of either sex for a Junior Research Fellowship in the Natural Sciences tenable for three years from 1 October 1987. Candidates must have qualified for their first degree not more than seven years before 1 June 1987. It is intended that the Fellowship will be held in conjunction with a major appointment or a grant for research in one of the departments of this University.

The Fellow will receive free rooms in College or a housing allowance together with free lunches and dinners.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Principal, Brasenose College, Oxford, OX1 4AJ, to whom applications should be submitted by 1 November 1986.

The Leverhulme Trust

RESEARCH AWARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS FOR 1987

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Awards of up to £5,000 to persons experienced in their own field pursuing their own investigations (but not higher degrees or equivalent).

Awards tenable for 3 months to 2 years. No subject of enquiry excluded. Applicants must have been educated in the U.K. or other part of the Commonwealth and be normally resident in the U.K.

Application form F.A. Closing date: Thursday, 10th November 1986.

EMERITUS FELLOWSHIPS

Awards of up to £4,400 a year for 1 or 2 years to enable persons to complete a piece of research. Applicants must have attained the age of 50, retired by October 1987, and recently held academic positions at universities or other institutions of similar status in the U.K.

Application form F.A. Closing date: Monday, 1st December 1986

Applications on the appropriate form must be in the hands of the Secretary not later than the date specified and cannot be considered if arriving after that date.

Application forms and further information from The Secretary, Research Awards Advisory Committee, The Leverhulme Trust, 15-19 Peter Street, London EC4A 3DF. Telephone 01-832 6552.

Tuition

HAVING A STATISTICS TUTOR

by M. A. (Cantab) for OCE

Private tuition in Statistics, Probability, etc. Tel: 01 546 4360

LAST DATE FOR RECEIVING PROPOSALS is 24th October 1986.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE POLYTECHNIC

DIRECTOR

Applications are invited for the post of Director of the North Staffordshire Polytechnic following the retirement of Dr. J. F. Dickenson.

Present Salary £33,726.

Details of the post and application forms can be obtained from the Chief Education Officer (F.E.), Education Office, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DR.

Closing date 24th October 1986.

Trade Union Membership is encouraged. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

BERKHAMSTED SCHOOL

requires a CHAPLAIN

We are looking for an Anglican priest for September 1987 (or sooner if possible) who will involve himself in the total life of the School.

• Salary: Barnham Plus

• Pleasant family home available

• Teaching subject immaterial

• Removal expenses of up to £400

• Educational allowances for sons and daughters at Berkhamsted School - also Sons of Schoolmasters Scheme.

• Beautiful School Chapel

• Close pastoral relationships with local parishes

Write for a school prospectus and other details to: The Headmaster's Secretary, Berkhamsted School, Herts., HP4 2BE (044 27 8336). Applications in writing to the Headmaster as soon as possible.

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We are an expanding subsidiary of a public company providing serviced office facilities to external organisations. In addition to furnished offices, we offer a wide range of back up facilities such as reception, telephone and secretarial services.

We are now recruiting for two key roles:

ASSISTANT MANAGER

To primarily take responsibility for the day to day control of our client service facilities, in addition to working closely with the Manager on the overall organisation and management of the Centre.

The ideal candidate will have a background in office/secretarial services, will be familiar with the use of modern office equipment and will have experience of managing a small team.

Numeracy, initiative and willingness to accept responsibility essential.

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To provide a high standard of secretarial service to a wide variety of clients. Experience at senior executive level required, preferably in a professional environment. Speeds 100/60, WP, telex, etc.

Both positions demand energy, enthusiasm, flexibility and commitment, together with the ability to work under pressure and communicate well at all levels. Competitive salaries negotiable.

Please call Rachel Jones on 01-628 4200.

The City Business Centre,
2 London Wall Buildings, London Wall, London EC2M 5PP.

INVESTMENT
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Cost, calm & complete? To organise & 'run the show' of the investment house - preferably car licence holder - to meet WP & team airport, take out to lunch etc. Minimum SH/typing 100/60. Good all rounder, must be a self-starter.
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£10,000
Due to expansion, Finance Co are seeking a person who has a body of experience in dealing with clients. The position offers a very good chance to progress from a secretarial position. New position - 3 weeks holiday.
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HAUTE COUTURE
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A Stylist Fashion House with international acclaim seeks a top SH to assist their MD. In return for loyalty, versatility and the ability to work with creative people, you will be rewarded with generous salary, pension, excellent benefits and a superb working environment.
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BE YOUR OWN BOSS
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Personality plus initiative? Then the Motor matchless (Cub) is your chance. You arrange, you sell, you service. A chance to earn on WP as well as on SH side. £3000 cash. Director level. 5 wk holiday.
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Advertising/PR
£2500
Join the in set. This say office need a PA who can handle a million things at once, is a good organiser and enjoys meeting to deal with. Top salaries. Must have some knowledge of Personal procedures. Lots of perks - free lunches. Minimum SH/typing 100/60.
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PA/Recruitment Officer is required for the large group of five Hotels. Must have some knowledge of Personal procedures. Lots of perks - free lunches. Minimum SH/typing 100/60.
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You are, quite simply the best! You have top-level merchant banking or corporate finance experience and superb skills, presentation and discretion. You will work whatever hours necessary as PA to the Chairman of a major City bank attending to his business, personal and Parliamentary work (the Upper House).
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Enjoy using your initiative in this fast-moving international environment as secretary to the Legal Advisor. It is the UK Head Office 'start-up' of a large diversified group. Legal exp not necessary, but fast shorthand is - 110+.
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SECRETARY TO FINANCE DIRECTOR
Financial Times Business Information is looking for a secretary to the Director of Finance. The successful applicant will preferably have experience of working in an accounting background with good shorthand and typing and preferably word processing. Ability to type detailed figure schedules within tight deadlines essential. Salary c.£9,200. 5 weeks holiday rising to 6 weeks after 2 years service. If you are interested please send full C.V. to:
Steve Savan
Personnel Officer
F.T.S.I.
Graystone Place
Fleet Lane
London EC4A 1ND

SECRETARY/PA
£11,000
NutraSweet AG, the Swiss based company which markets NutraSweet sweetening ingredient throughout Europe, requires a Secretary/PA for its London office.
In addition to excellent shorthand and WP skills, the successful applicant will be able to work on their own initiative. They should have a sense of humour and an ability to work under pressure.
Please contact:
Ewan Currie,
NutraSweet AG,
21 Dorset Square, London NW1 6QG.
01-724 6037.

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Start the day with your free breakfast and then become involved with lots of telephone work, client liaison, sending out press releases and organising meetings and seminars. Good fast typing on the WP. Shorthand and audio verbal. Subsidised lunch is also available with these friendly PR Consultants in WC1.

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As secretary/PA to the Senior Director (Chairman Designate) your duties and scope will grow as his do. organising meetings, lunches, your own correspondence and also looking after his personal life will mean a busy and rewarding day. Ideally 25 to 40 an articulate self-starter, you will have skills of 90/60.

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Working as a Manpower temporary isn't easy... but who wants it easy? Our skill is assigning you where you can use your skills. Which, we have to confess, keeps you pretty busy. Our clients ask us for trouble-shooters; capable, competent, conscientious.

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Exciting financial rewards and bonus plus real appreciation from your young boss for your legal experience. Will add to the fun of handling demanding cases. With good typing.
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Attend wine tasting courses and utilise this knowledge by reviewing the office of this SW's international wine company. To assist the sales executive you will need initiative, enjoy people contact and speak excellent French. With good SH/typing.
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THREE GO TRAVELLING to £10,500

A very successful company who specialise in incentive travel packages seeks three bright and experienced secretaries to join their busy office involved in holiday research projects. Help produce high quality client presentations and provide full secretarial support. 50 wpm typing ability and ideally Wang WP ability.

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Join this famous name-publishing house as secretary to their managing director. He is keen to delegate and involve his secretary to the full. An interest in the visual arts would be an asset. An 'A' level education and 100/60 skills essential. Please telephone 01-346 3531.

Elizabeth Hunt
Recruitment Consultants
18 Grosvenor Street London W1

EDITORIAL SECRETARY

The Financial Times Newspaper has a vacancy for a secretary aged 18+ to join its editorial department where they will work for a team of journalists. A GCE 'O' Level education including Maths and English, Shorthand/typing skills, and the ability to be flexible and adaptable are the main requirements. This position may suit a college leaver. The job involves some secretarial work, clerical duties and providing a 'cuttings' service for journalists. Salary £25,250 pa and benefits including five weeks annual leave rising to six weeks after two years service, a subsidised restaurant, and a season ticket loan scheme.

Please apply in writing enclosing a current CV to:
Personnel Dept., The Financial Times, Bracken House, 10 Cannon St., London EC4A 3DF or telephone 01 236 9788 for an application form.

Upmarket Temping to £12,000

This autumn, join an exclusive and upwardly-mobile elite. The pick of London's prestige jobs. Rewards that pay full recognition to excellence. And something more. Longer-term career growth. Financially our pay structure reflects your development. So too our training unit, where without charge or obligation you can bring yourself up to date on the latest in WP. Find out more about upmarket temping. Call today: 01-493 5787.

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FASHION FUTURE PA £10,000
A new position with lots of scope for a professional PA to assist the well respected Chief Executive of this prestigious chain of department stores. Full involvement, fabulous perks and an exciting environment for someone 25+, well educated and personable, a good communicator, with accurate 80/60 and WP. **SPECIAL EFFECTS** £9,500
Liaise with clients, take their briefs and organise a team of artists to produce special effects for films and TV. Working independently, you'll need plenty of initiative, mature attitude and top secret skills as well as good typing. **DESIGN WORLD** £11,000
Work closely with the consultants in this exciting design company, on projects ranging from graphic to retail and interior design. Involved from start to finish on client presentations, budgets for each project, arranging lunches and meetings, you'll need 80 wpm typing, WP, an A-level education and lots of social confidence. If, effectively, you're young, you'll love the busy environment and busy office.

Handle Recruitment
10 New Bond St, London W1
01-493 1184

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS has an immediate vacancy for ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY Circa £10,000

We seek a well presented, well educated and highly motivated Administrative Secretary to run our Overseas Office. The successful applicant will, in addition to processing excellent secretarial and communication skills, have sound administrative experience coupled with a cheerful and willing personality. Ability to deal with problems of visitors from overseas essential. Candidates must be prepared to acquire VDU and word processing skills (taught in-house). 22 Days Holiday, Free 3-course Lunches, 35 Hour Week. Address: Office overlooking Regent's Park. 3 minutes walk from Great Portland Street and Regent's Park underground stations, salaries (subject to award and cost of living reviews) according to age and experience on University Scale. Please write immediately to the Personnel and Office Manager with C.V. or telephone Miss F. Khan for an application form. RCP, 21 St Andrews Place, London N1 2AE. Tel: 01-835 1174

COVENT GARDEN TV/MARKET RESEARCH COMPANY CIRC. £9,990

Young audio secretary who takes pride in her work and is keen to be cross trained on to another word processor, immediately required for this fast-moving company. Constant contact with ad agencies and video suppliers. This lively, hardworking team are looking for initiative and bags of energy.

Call Joanne Osborne
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01-839-4833

Ask ALFRED MARKS

SENIOR PERSONAL SECRETARY SALARY c.£10,000

We are a small head office in the City, managing a number of companies involved in industry and investment. One of our young senior directors is looking for somebody special to organize and manage his busy and diverse schedule. The successful applicant will have excellent secretarial skills including solid WP/PC experience, preferably IBM. They will be smart, well-spoken, discreet and tactful, with the confidence to deal with people at all levels. Probable age range 25-35. If this is a description of you and you are looking for something different write with your C.V. to BOX C10

MATURE SECRETARY (WANG TRAINED) AND TELEPHONIST/TYPIST

Heads Financial PR company in the Strand needs a Secretary (good Wang experience plus shorthand) to work with 2/3 Account Executive.
We also require a Junior Secretary to answer the telephone, update diaries and do some typing.
Non-smokers with PR experience preferred.
Salary: Secretary £3,000+; Junior Secretary £1,500+.
Apply with C.V. to:
Christopher Morgan Marketing & PR
13 - 15 John Adam Street
London WC2N 6LU

MAYFAIR RECEPTIONIST £3,500

A welcoming smile for important visitors and a friendly but business-like voice on the telephone will be your most important qualifications. You will look after the comings and goings of a busy firm of young Chartered Surveyors and Property Developers. Switchboard experience and a little typing are also necessary. Beautiful offices and excellent benefits. Age 25+.
01 389 4422

Senior Secretaries

COLLEGE LEAVER MARKETING £3,500

First prove your capacity for hard work and your ability to get on well with young lively consultants then later there will be good promotion prospects.
In the meantime, there will be lots of typing to keep you busy including lengthy business contracts. 60/50 skills.
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IN THE CITY to £13,000

Join this leading international City bank as secretary to the head of their research department. Set up conferences and seminars and provide excellent secretarial support. Ideally you'll have a banking background, 100/60 skills and WP ability essential. Benefits include free lunch to work and mortgage subsidy.

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH £10,500 + paid overtime

A very successful firm of international research consultants seeks a number of energetic outgoing secretaries who enjoy being busy and working in a lively, unstructured environment. Lots of variety and well equipped offices. 60 wpm audio ability and a stable career history desired. Please telephone 01-346 3531.

Elizabeth Hunt
Recruitment Consultants
23 College Hill London EC4

P.A./SEC, c.£11,000

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Genesis Appts.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT SECRETARY

Research Funds Administrator requires qualified/experienced secretary to assist in busy office with verbal duties. Position requires fast, accurate audio typing and shorthand. Shorthand/word processing preferred. Age 25+. Good salary and benefits. Apply with CV to: Confidential to Mrs S B Molyneux, British Heart Foundation, 100 Gloucester Place, London W1H 4BT.

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Telephone Sue Cooke on 01-409 1232.
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EXPERIENCED CONSCIENTIOUS SECRETARY

Required for hectic sales department of sales promotion company. Excellent typing; good spelling essential. Shorthand/speedwriting and familiarity with WP preferred. Age 25+. The work is varied and would suit a person who likes to be involved. The committed applicant can make the job grow into a PA position. Salary £9,000 pa.
Please apply with C.V. to:
Mrs Brenda Turner, Stanfield Lake & Co, 47/49
Pitfield St, London N1 6DA. Tel 01 253 5167

Administration Manager to act as P.A. to M.D.

Richmond, £10,000.
You will have worked as the administration manager in a medium to large company. You relish the challenge of assisting an overworked M.D. Essential qualities are initiative, efficiency, and an outgoing personality.
Call Brian White.
01 948 5922.

MULTILINGUAL PA MARKETING c.£10,000

Prestige Marketing/Sales promotion group in luxury riverside offices seek experienced secretary to assist senior executive. A full PA support role involving the commercial use of French/Spanish/German with prospects of travel abroad. Cross training offered on Olivetti WP. Ideal age 25+ full details 01 408 1220 Steve Mills Recruitment Consultants.

OFFICE MANAGER/PA £10,000-£14,000 neg

Would your administrative skills and personality extend to a hectic sales environment where there are often pressures and tight deadlines?
This expanding W1 company requires a well-organized person who can competently run the office, supervise and prioritise work for a small secretarial team and provide some secretarial support to the MD. No s/b or audio required.
ALEXIS PERSONNEL 01 439 2777

SECRETARY/AIR STEWARD/ESS

Aged 22-35, for this demanding but very interesting position with an international group of companies. Although working mainly in their London office, there is a certain amount of flying involved on their executive aircraft. This position will only suit someone who is able to work flexible hours. It is essential that applicants have an excellent knowledge of French, a confident telephone manner, together with suitable office and in-flight experience. A top salary and other benefits commensurate with the position are offered. Please send C.V., recent passport photograph and names of 3 referees to
BOX 899 The Times.

PUBLIC RELATIONS £8,500

Prominent PR Agency requires 2 PAs to get involved in all aspects of PR and Marketing. Some of humour and a typing speed of 50wpm essential.
PUBLISHING £8,500
Director of Overseas Sales and PR is seeking a competent PA to 'hold the fort'. A very busy position demanding excellent shorthand and typing skills. A very good salary and benefits package.
GERMAN? c. £10,000
PA with conversational German urgently required for Production Co in W1. Working for the European Director you will be willing to travel and progress within the company.
ENTERTAINMENT c. £12,000 a.s.o.
The Director of this exciting organisation is looking for an experienced PA with experience. Good benefits. For interview contact Clemencia West. Tel. 01 734 5671.

please telephone: 01-493 8070
46 Old Bond Street London W1.
CAROLINE KING SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS

MANDARIN ORIENTAL HOTEL GROUP SECRETARY TO VP WITH GOOD SPOKEN FRENCH

Work in the Regent Street Sales Office of this prestigious hotel company as part of a team dealing with the UK and European Business. Required excellent audio skills self motivated, outgoing personality, good organiser, clear oriented. Salary commensurate with experience. Good benefits. For interview contact Clemencia West. Tel. 01 734 5671.

Kathini Crab

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RUGBY UNION: JAPAN SHOW THEIR POTENTIAL, NEW ZEALAND REINSTATE THEIR CAPTAIN

Warning signs for England

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

Scotland XV..... 33
Japan..... 18

Had Japan kicked their goals at Murrayfield on Saturday, then they too would have scored 33 points. That conveniently ignores the three penalties which Dods missed, but it does indicate Japan's scoring potential which was a drop goal in 12 days' time. If Katsuhiko Matsuo strikes out at Twickenham with his kicking boots on, it will be an interesting confrontation.

Scotland's performance was full of early warning signs for England. Their scrum was completely unable to move the Japanese pack, they lost concentration in the final quarter and conceded three tries (two from set pieces) and a drop goal in the last 10 minutes.

Scotland's display, however, which brought them victory by three goals, three tries and a penalty goal to three tries, a penalty and a drop goal, was redeemed by Iwan Tukalo on the left wing. Even though there seemed no obvious intent to move the ball his way, he made so much of his position that he scored four tries, matching the four scored by Bill Gammell against Japan in 1977 (though two Scottish players, Stewart and Smith, both scored four tries in full internationals).

Tukalo played only because Baird dropped out on Thursday with a groin strain, but the Scottish wing was the cradle of Baird's long-held place. Even allowing for Japanese naivety in the tackle, he has a lovely swerve and is swifter than most inside his stride. He got inside three men for his first try, shrugged off two tackles for his second, and made the collection of Ker's excellent kick to the corner look easy for his third.

It was his first try which helped the Scots to a 13-6 half-time lead, but in the second half, there was a six-minute delay before Taisone was carried off on a stretcher. He carried the Tongan flanker back a spinal injury, hence the reluctance to move him, but it proved to be a leg injury. It was immediately after that the Scots fell in on Japan as the Scots' four tries within nine minutes.

That may have been coincidence because, throughout the first half, Japan had been forced to work overtime to hold their bigger opponents, particularly the driving play of the back row and Paea. The scrum was invaluable. Nor was Japan's tackling on the wings and at full back all it might have been. Equally the Scots may have relaxed, subconsciously, after achieving a lead, and that the flow points of Japanese play were allowed to emerge.

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**Edited by Peter Dear
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SPORT

Honeyghan's win matches the feats of Turpin

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Lloyd Honeyghan, of Bernardsay, achieved the most memorable victory in British boxing since Randolph Turpin took the middleweight title from Sugar Ray Robinson 35 years ago, when he stopped Donald Curry, of the United States, the undisputed world welterweight champion, in six rounds at Atlantic City on Saturday. Like Robinson, Curry was rated by boxing experts to be pound for pound, the best boxer in the world; even greater than Marvin Hagler, the world middleweight champion.

Nobody, except Honeyghan himself and his trainer, Bobby Neill, gave the London fighter a chance against such a complete boxer/fighter as Curry. Americans thought it would be more fun burning money than betting on the Briton. Those who had seen Curry's four-round destruction of Colin Jones, the tough Welshman, feared for Honeyghan's health.

He looked the Cobra in the eye

But Honeyghan, aged 26, who had said the day before the bout, "all I want to do is punch his face in and take his title" went into the ring at Caesar's Palace, looked the fearsome "Cobra" in the eye and then, with complete coolness, proceeded to dominate the fight for the six rounds before the two ringside doctors, Paul Williams and Frank Doggett, ruled that an eye

injury suffered in the sixth was too serious for the champion to continue.

Curry was taken to hospital to have his wound attended to, and to ponder his defeat. The injury required 20 stitches and Curry also sustained a broken nose. Never had the champion, in his 25 bouts, suffered such a comprehensive defeat from beginning to end. Honeyghan being well ahead on points on all the judges' cards at the time of the stoppage. Even had the contest been allowed to continue, it is unlikely that Curry would have been able to catch up for the champion who had allowed to find his rhythm or timing and his punches lacked the power to stop Honeyghan in his tracks.

Curry said afterwards: "I felt no zap. Honeyghan is a very good fighter. I'll be returning, but not at 10st 7lb." It is reported that Curry had to lose 10lb to make the weight. However, that particular struggle should not take anything away from Honeyghan's magnificent effort. From the first round the Briton was quicker with the jab, and his chopping right-hand had a whiplash quality that the Cobra could not match for speed or power.

Efforts pay off for the new champion

By Srikumar Sen

Lloyd Honeyghan is one of a lengthening line of immigrants dominating British boxing today. He now joins Dennis Andries, of Hackney, at world champion. Born in Jamaica, Honeyghan spent his amateur years with the Fisher Club, in Bernardsay, and represented England. He turned professional with the famous Terry Lawless gym in Canning Town but after disagreements with Lawless a year ago he joined Mickey Duff and was trained by Bobby Neill.

Honeyghan, who has won all his 28 contests, 18 of them inside the distance, lifted his first title almost by chance in 1983. He met Cliff Gilpin at the Albert Hall as a late substitute for his stablemate, Colin Derrick. He was ranked only 14th in Britain and had to get off the floor to win.

He became European champion in January 1985, knocking out Gianfranco Rosi in Italy. He beat Sylvester Mittee, of Bethnal Green, for the British and Commonwealth titles 10 months later.



Lloyd Honeyghan is jubilant after receiving his belt for his undisputed world championship on Saturday night.

round the ring before grabbing hold of Honeyghan. The challenger, now realising that the much-vaunted superstar could be brought down to earth, opened up with both hands. Though he failed to catch Curry as cleanly again in that round, he gave the American no respite and, for most of the remaining four rounds, had Curry backing away from his combinations and holding on an effort to survive.

He knew all he needed to know

Curry responded in the third, nailing Honeyghan with a left hook to the body and straight right to the head. Curry was turning the flow of the fight until Honeyghan shook him with a big right to the head late in round five. Curry was then forced to dance for survival against the onrushing Honeyghan.

Honeyghan, who received \$162,750 against the American's \$300,000, said: "When I was 12-years-old, I saw Muhammad Ali on television, and I said 'I want to be like that man, champion of the world'." He said that, after watching video tapes of Curry against Nino LaRocca and Marlon Starling, he knew all he needed to know about beating him. "I watched the tapes twice and gave them to my trainer. I've seen enough," said Curry. "He fought the same way. He came straight ahead, and he held his hands up high. When I got inside, I turned on him and there was nothing he could do about it. I am a quick learner," said the man who, on the night, looked like the teacher. "All the praise people have been giving to Curry, they can now give to me," said Honeyghan. "All the talk coming into this fight was about how good he was. Now it's my turn to do the talking."

"I wanted to come over here and get the respect of the American people. I fought a couple times in America before and looked real lousy. I guess that's one reason they made the fight. Who would take me seriously?"

While all his formative years were spent with Terry Lawless, most of the credit for his sensational victory belongs to Neill, his trainer. Even when Honeyghan was preparing for his final eliminator against Horace Shufford, Neill said he believed Honeyghan was capable of lifting the title.

Neill, the British featherweight champion in 1960 and one of the few boxers to survive a brain haemorrhage operation, was involved in Alan Minter's rise to the world title. Tactically and technically, he is probably the best in the country. He once wrote a highly acclaimed boxing textbook aimed at young amateurs and, with his latest success, he may now start to reap some of the recognition due to him.



Championship style: Lloyd Honeyghan (left) connects with Don Curry early in his title bout

GOLF

Man in a million Norman leads Australian victory

By Mitchell Platts

Greg Norman must be wondering what he can offer for an encore. He became the first golfer in the history of the game to win one million dollars in prize money in a single year when Australia retained the Dunhill Cup at St Andrews yesterday.

"I like that," said Norman. "It's nice to have seven figures behind my name. I guess the tax man likes it too!"

Australia, with Rodger Davis and David Graham also winning their games on the wind-blown Old Course, shared the \$300,000 (about £211,000) first prize following a convincing 3-0 win against Japan in the final.

Davis led Australia in the No.1 game throughout the tournament, and he continued to reduce the pressure on Graham and Norman by maintaining his 100 per cent record, overcoming Jet Ozaki by 76 to 81.

Graham, in spite of taking 81, scampered through by one shot against Joe Ozaki. It was not a classic confrontation, Graham taking four putts on one green but Norman, the man of the moment, produced another impressive performance with a 73 to beat Tommy Nakajima by three shots.

Norman has now collected the first prize on each of his three visits to Britain this season. He earned £70,000 from the Open Championship at Turnberry in July, and another £85,000 by completing a double in the European Open at Sunningdale earlier this month.

That makes £225,000 for 12 rounds of golf in Britain this

year. Even Severiano Ballesteros, with five European titles this season and only £207,502 to show for his endeavours, must be kicking his heels in frustration.

Norman insisted: "The secret to Australia winning was the fact that we all played well. It was a team performance. Roger, going out first each day, was the most important man in our team. He proved beyond any doubt that it was the correct decision for the committee to select him."

Davis, however, would be the first to admit that on current

£77,684 by beating Mark O'Meara (78), but Sam Torrance (78) lost to Ray Floyd (73).

Lyle's victims during the week included David Ferry of Ireland, and Graham. He looked at home once again on the links, with his game clearly back in the groove, and he would enjoy nothing more this week than to become the first British player since the inauguration of the Suntory World Match Play Championship to win that title.

Norman and Nakajima will move on to Wentworth, where the championship begins on Thursday, feeling equally confident.

Lyle, however, is enjoying his week again. He has lacked his usual sparkle in Europe this summer but he controlled the ball with such authority on the Old Course in difficult conditions that he can justifiably claim to be playing like an Open champion again.

Meanwhile, it was confirmed that the Dunhill Cup will remain at St Andrews next year when the favoured date is October 8-11. Tony Greener, the managing director of Alfred Dunhill Ltd, said: "We feel that the event is going well in golfing terms and feel it would have more character and continuity by having a permanent home. We believe that St Andrews represents the ultimate challenge."

RESULTS: Final: Australia 3, Japan 0. R. Davis, 76 to T. Ozaki, 81; D. Graham 81, to G. Norman, 73 to T. Nakajima, 78. Third place play-off: Scotland 5, US 1. G. Brand 79, 78 to M. O'Meara 76, 81. G. Brand 79, 78 to T. Nakajima 73, 81. L. Wadkins 78, 81 to S. Davis 72, 81. G. Norman, 70 to S. Torrance, 72. G. Norman, 70 to T. Ozaki, 77 to M. O'Meara, 76. T. Nakajima, 80 to L. Wadkins, 74. T. Nakajima, 80 to R. Floyd, 78.

SPORT IN BRIEF

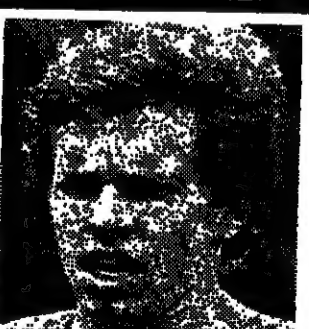
Death in marathon

The death of a runner within yards of the finish at the Berlin marathon yesterday threw the city into mourning (Michael Coleman writes).

A stunned audience at the prize-giving at the giant Palais am Funkturm heard a sports doctor announce that one of his patients, a family man, aged 38, had suffered from a heart infection but had resumed running under his guidance. Unfortunately he ran too fast yesterday and collapsed just 15 yards from the finish which he would have reached in the respectable time of 2 hours 50 minutes.

Dr Willi Haepel, a specialist in sports medicine, described the victim as "a lifelong sportsman who refused to give in despite his illness. The doctor refused to reveal the runner's name. A test right up to the race showed he was fit to take part," said the doctor. "I now feel responsible." The runner's death was mourned at the prize-giving ceremony with a minute's silence.

The race was won in record time by Boguslaw Pajek, of Poland, in a best performance for the course of 2 hours 11 minutes 03 seconds. 46 seconds ahead of the favourite.



Jones: royal victory

Henrik Jorgensen, of Denmark, and Gabriel Kamau of Kenya third in 2:12:35 in a field of 13,500. Charlotte Teske, of West Germany, led home the women in a best time of 2:32:10.

Joy for Jones

Hugh Jones, of Ranelagh Harriers, won the Poly marathon at Windsor yesterday in 2hr 26min 11sec, while in Milan, Jeff Martin, of Canada, won the city's marathon in 2hr 17min 7sec - 20 seconds ahead of Vittorio Gambaretti of Italy. Maria Masiletti, of Italy, won the women's race in 2:47.11.

Best in field

Shaftesbury Harriers took the men's title in the inaugural Adidas IAC field events championship in Birmingham on Saturday with the women's crown going to Birchfield Harriers.

Oldham loans

Oldham's utility backs, Alan Taylor, listed at £3,000 and Brian Cassery, valued at £4,000, have joined second division rugby league neighbours, Rochdale Hornets on loan.

Lewis leads

Wally Lewis, of Queensland, will lead the Australian Rugby League side to tour of England and France for 10 weeks next month, while Peter Sterling, Parramatta scrum half is vice-captain.

Wilson triple

Jocky Wilson has won the Unipart British Professional darts championship for the third time. The Scottish international beat No 3 seed Dave Whitcombe 7-6 in the final at Redcar.

Bid rejected

Manchester City have turned down a £200,000 bid by Newcastle United for their promising 20-year-old winger, Paul Simpson. Simpson has been noted by a number of clubs, but City want to keep their young players at the club. City chairman, Peter Swales confirmed that they had received an offer, believed to be in the region of £500,000, for 18-year-old central defender, Steve Redmond.

Godden saves the day as United's darkness deepens

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Manchester United..... 0
Chelsea..... 1

The darkness surrounding Manchester United deepens still further. Locked securely in the basement of the first division, they lost at home for the third time this season and are now, after a mere eight fixtures, already 15 points behind the leaders - realistic hopes of the League Championship have all but been buried, even before the dawn of October.

Those who witnessed Chelsea's victory on television yesterday afternoon will appreciate that United are flying on the wings of outrageous misfortune. As well as hitting the bar, they had two penalties saved in successive minutes by a goalkeeper who once happened to play under Ron Atkinson at West Bromwich Albion.

Atkinson, utterly bemused by the shortage of luck that is currently enveloping his club, refused to accept criticism of

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his side: "There can be no complaints about our character or our method," he said, "although I am probably beginning to sound like an echo."

Yet, though their performance was undeniably spirited, the same flaws still remain.

United's defensive vulnerability in the air, exposed repeatedly by Everton the previous week, was immediately illustrated on the ground. When Spackman's second minute lob bounced on the edge of their area, Dixon was as isolated as a victim of a contagious disease. McGrath and Siveback, his nearest neighbours, were 10 yards away.

Though his year has been relatively bleak so far, Dixon has collected a rich haul from his visits to Manchester. Of his total of only five goals in 1986, he has scored three of them at Old Trafford. His strike may persuade Bobby Robson to retain him in his England squad next Monday.

Several minutes later, the United defence's aerial challenge was non-existent (Spackman left alone, misdirected his header) and, although Turner was required to make only two other saves, the protective barrier in front

of him was rarely convincing. Albiston, in particular, was uncharacteristically uncertain during his individual contest against Nevin.

United's midfield was once more as lopsided as an unused seesaw. No constructive ideas were offered on the left, where Whiteside was uncomfortably out of place, until Olsen appeared belatedly for the anonymous Moses. In spite of Siveback's wayward distribution on the right, Strachan was again their brightest creator.

Their sharpest weapon was, as usual, Robson. At the end of any significant attack, there was scarcely any need to confirm the source of the danger. Almost inevitably, Robson was involved in the first penalty incident on the hour, though Godden claimed that United's captain had barged him in the chest as he was stretching for possession. Godden put into practice his theory about the penalty-taking tactics of Olsen, who had been brought on for Moses less than a minute before. "He runs up slowly and waits for the goalkeeper to move," he said. "So I stood my ground. It wasn't the best of penalties I must admit."

For the second penalty moments later, Godden swears that Strachan was under heavy pressure after McNaught's foul on Olsen, merely guessed. History suggests that he is invariably correct. He estimates that he has saved 80 per cent of the penalties he has faced and remembers that, at West Brom, he was once beaten only twice in seven attempts.

Godden felt justifiably that three of his other, non-penalty saving feats, were more notable. He reacted swiftly to a mis-cue by his own captain, Pates, in the first half, sprawled to deny Moses before the hour, and spread himself to thwart Stapleton with a couple of minutes to go. Chelsea's run of success in the famous arena came of age yesterday, remarkably they have not lost in the League at Old Trafford since 1966. A sequence that now stretches over 13 games. Atkinson revealed that he almost bought Godden, Chelsea's saviour, last season. Fate for United's manager has never seemed so twisted.

MANCHESTER UNITED: G. Turner, J. Siveback, A. Olsen, W. Whiteside, P. McGrath, A. Moses, S. Robson, G. Strachan, G. Spackman, P. Davenport, R. Atkinson (sub: J. Godden). CHELSEA: A. Godden, D. Wood, D. Rogers, G. Moses, J. McNaught, D. Spackman, S. Nevin, J. Stapleton, D. Spence (subs: K. Jones, J. McNaught, R. Atkinson, G. Courtney (Sperrymoor)).

Convincing evidence of championship quality

By Hugh Taylor

The football played at Ibrox was of a quality to send home Britain's biggest crowd of the afternoon convinced that Rangers and Aberdeen have become the most valid contenders for the Scottish League championship.

Absorbing moves delighted the 41,155 spectators and, while Rangers deserved their 2-0 victory, Aberdeen's version of the entertaining style of possession football Graeme Souness' side has introduced was just as effective.

Rangers won because they had the more inspiring individuals, notably the player-manager who scored his opening premier division goal which led to his team's first win over Aberdeen at Ibrox for three years.

Such was the fascination for the players, 13 of whom are internationals, of making the ball at last do most of the work, that there was hardly a hint of the feuding which had marred recent matches between the clubs. However, Aberdeen players were incensed when McCoist scored the goal which assured Rangers of victory late in the second half. They felt the Rangers' forward was clearly offside when he received a pass from Fleck.

Notwithstanding their impressive play at Ibrox, neither Rangers nor Aberdeen are yet within sight of displacing Dundee United from their position at the top. It had been thought that United, defeated by Rangers in the Skol Cup semi-final, might carry the stigma of that humiliation into their game with Hibernian at Easter Road. Despite

finding Hibs livelier than of late, United drew 1-1 to remain unbeaten after nine league matches and showed that their bright talent has not yet been extinguished.

United led Celtic and Heart of Midlothian by a point and, if none of these aspirants for the title match Rangers and Aberdeen in stylish football, all are fiercely competitive. Like United, Celtic made a spirited comeback in the second half after having brought worry to their travelling support with a lacklustre opening display. Yet it was not until the 82nd minute that Johnston scored the winning goal after having laid siege to the Falkirk goal.

Hearts went to Dens Park seeking their sixth win in a row but found Dundee, who had ended Rangers' run of success the previous week, in valiant mood again and had to call on all their determination to earn a point in a goalless draw.

Hamilton Academicals remain firmly anchored at the bottom following a 2-1 defeat at Paisley, where St Mirren's run of success continued rather fortunately. Liddle put Hamilton into the lead but Saints improved in the second half, were given a dubious penalty from which Cameron scored, and won the game with a late goal from McGarvey.

Motherwell, who had fought bravely against Celtic in the Skol Cup, stuttered again in the league, losing 1-0 at home to Clydebank, for whom Sinnott scored. Motherwell missed a penalty and had Gahagan ordered off.

SNOOKER

Clear win for Foulds

Neal Foulds reached the quarter-finals of the BCE International after a 5-1 victory over Ken Owers in Stoke yesterday. Foulds dropped only the third frame, making breaks of over 30 in all six. His highest was a clearance of 114, the first century of the final stages and if it remains unbeaten for the remainder of the tournament it will be worth £3,500.

Foulds clinched his victory with breaks of 54 and 44 in the sixth frame with Owers, a new

professional from Fleetwood, mustering 27 points in the last three frames. Foulds said, "I didn't play well at the start and that was rather surprising as my general game had been quite good before arriving at Stoke. But I was very pleased to finish so strongly."

"I was on a hiding to nothing and for the third or four frames I felt I was under a lot of pressure."

RESULTS: First round: N. Foulds (Eng) 5-1 K. Owers (Eng), S. F. Owers (Eng) 5-1 K. Owers (Eng), 78-50, 63-35, 43-54, 72-15, 114-4.

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